



# LONDON- WEST MIDLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Volume 5 | Technical Appendices

CFA10 | Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton

**Baseline report (CH-001-010)**

Cultural heritage

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# Department for Transport

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Structure of the cultural heritage appendices

1.1.1 The cultural heritage appendices for the Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton community forum area (CFA10) comprise:

- baseline reports (this appendix);
- a gazetteer of heritage assets (Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-010);
- an impact assessment (Volume 5: Appendix CH-003-010); and
- survey reports (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010).

1.1.2 Maps referred to throughout the cultural heritage appendices are contained in the Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book.

## 1.2 Content and scope

1.2.1 This baseline provides the evidence base against which the assessment of assets that may be affected by the Proposed Scheme can be determined. It contains information about known and potential heritage assets from a variety of sources and presents a chronological description and discussion of the development of the study area, placing assets within their historical and archaeological context.

## 1.3 Study area

1.3.1 The Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton study area lies mainly within the Aylesbury Vale District but also partially within the Chiltern District and the Wycombe District in Buckinghamshire and comprises parts of the civil parishes of The Lee, Wendover and Ellesborough.

1.3.2 All non-designated and designated assets within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme and within 500m of it have been detailed in this baseline assessment. In addition designated heritage assets have been examined which lie within the zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV).

1.3.3 All identified assets are listed in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-010 and shown on Maps CH-01-031, CH-01-032, CH-01-033a, CH-01-033b, CH-01-034, CH-01-034L1, CH-02-015 and CH-02-016 (Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book).

## 1.4 Data sources

1.4.1 Sources examined as part of this baseline assessment include published secondary sources, cartographic sources, historic environment record (HER) data for undesignated heritage assets and English Heritage National Heritage List (NHL) data for designated assets. A full list of published sources can be found in Section 9 of this appendix.

## 1.5 Surveys undertaken

- 1.5.1 The following surveys were undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process:
- light detection and ranging (LiDAR)<sup>1</sup> survey of the majority of the Proposed Scheme and land around it (see Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010);
  - hyperspectral survey of the majority of the land around the Proposed Scheme (see Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010);
  - a programme of non-intrusive surveys including geophysical prospection and fieldwalking (see Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010); and
  - site reconnaissance field inspections to review the setting of historic assets and the character and form of the historic landscape (incorporated in this appendix).

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<sup>1</sup> Light detection and ranging (LiDAR) is a high resolution remote sensing technique to capture 3D data.

## 2 Geology, topography and landform

- 2.1.1 The Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton area lies on the dip-slope of the Chilterns and flanks the valley of the River Misbourne which drains eastward to the River Colne and thence to the River Thames. The northern part of the area as it reaches Wendover, straddles the Chiltern Scarp and the edge of the Icknield Belt.
- 2.1.2 The underlying geology comprises chalk of Cretaceous date which outcrops on the valley sides of the River Misbourne but the adjacent plateau eastwards of the valley is overlain by superficial Clay-with-Flints deposits of Pleistocene date.
- 2.1.3 The superficial deposits of Clay-with-Flints are extensive on the plateau though only lie within the south-eastern part of the study area as far north as Barn Wood. There are colluvial (Head) deposits along the valley floor which is orientated broadly north-north-west to just south of Wellhead Farm. Such alluvial and colluvial deposits have the potential to mask archaeological deposits and to 'seal in' deposits of palaeoenvironmental interest. Alluvial sand and gravel deposits also cover the valley floor as far north as Road Barn Farm.
- 2.1.4 At points along the scarp and dip-slope the Chilterns landscape is dissected by a network of dry valleys that dip gently south-east towards the River Thames. These river valleys were formed under periglacial conditions and are generally floored by thick layers of chalk and clay derived from valley sides which have thin, well-drained, rendzina soils.
- 2.1.5 It is possible that erosion on the plateau land and valley sides of the River Misbourne and its tributaries will have resulted in deposition of colluvium on lower slopes and within the valley floor.
- 2.1.6 The Proposed Scheme will pass across the western edge of the Clay-with-Flints strata at the southern end of the study area, then pass north-westwards along the valley slope and the outcropping chalk landscape until crossing colluvial (Head) deposits in the valley. It will then pass across the chalk formations of the Chiltern Scarp and subsequently the Gault Formation and Upper Greensand Formation of the Icknield Belt before passing into the Vale of Aylesbury.
- 2.1.7 The River Misbourne rises on the outskirts of Great Missenden and flows through the Misbourne Valley to its confluence with the River Colne. The valley forms a natural routeway across the dip-slope of the Chilterns from its confluence with the River Colne and thence the River Thames near Denham to the south-east to the scarp slope overlooking the Vale of Aylesbury near Wendover to the north-west.
- 2.1.8 The present settlement character is predominantly one of dispersed settlement comprising farmsteads and small hamlets with small enclosures adjacent to the principal valleys set within a heavily wooded landscape, much of which is ancient beechwood.
- 2.1.9 The principal settlement within the study area is Wendover which is situated at the point where the Misbourne Valley leaves the Chiltern Hills and meets the lowlands of

the Icknield Belt. Smaller settlements at The Lee, Dunsmore and Ellesborough are set within gently undulating chalk hills.

- 2.1.10 Former local industry is represented throughout the study area, evidenced by former chalk pits, both in the landscape and depicted on earlier Ordnance Survey (OS) maps. These are all small and dispersed examples. No active pits are currently at work within the study area.
- 2.1.11 The Marylebone to Aylesbury Line and the A413 are the primary communications routes through the study area, both lying adjacent to each other on the lower ground of the valley. They skirt Bacombe Hill on its east side before moving into the flatter landscape of the Vale of Aylesbury. The A413 is joined on its eastern and western sides by several minor roads which serve the surrounding villages, hamlets, dispersed farms and other residences.
- 2.1.12 The Proposed Scheme will lie further to the east of these routeways and will run along the shoulder of the valley part way through the study area, initially passing through Clay-with-Flints deposits overlying the chalk, until it reaches Bowood Lane. It will then continue north-westwards dropping down the valley to pass through colluvial deposits and crossing the A413 London Road and Marylebone to Aylesbury Line at Road Barn Farm south of Wendover. The route will then run adjacent to these as it passes the west side of Wendover before again moving north-westwards across the Vale of Aylesbury out of the study area.

## 3 Archaeological and historical background

- 3.1.1 This section provides a chronological overview of the archaeological evidence within the study area. This baseline review forms a contextualisation within which individual assets can be considered. Descriptions of all archaeological assets, whether designated or not, which lie wholly or partially within land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme, or within 500m of the edge of this land, are contained in Gazetteer in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-010. The assets are shown on Maps CH-01-031, CH-01-032, CH-01-033a, CH-01-033b, CH-01-034 and CH-01-034L1, CH-02-015 and CH-02-016 (Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book). The Gazetteer also considers all designated archaeological assets within the ZTV. The Gazetteer entries include assessments of significance where appropriate.

### 3.2 Early prehistory(circa 500,000 - 1,500 BC)

- 3.2.1 The earliest evidence of human occupation in Britain dates from the Lower Palaeolithic (circa 500,000 BC onwards). Evidence for Palaeolithic hominin and human activity is predominantly informed by the presence of stone tools, commonly also by palaeoenvironmental remains and far less commonly by other organic remains such as butchered bones and wooden tools. By far the majority of all such finds derive from fluvial sands and gravels that comprise the river terrace deposits.
- 3.2.2 Assemblages of Palaeolithic material have usually been recorded in lowland Britain, reflecting both the exploitation of river valleys and coastal plains, glacial lakes and other potential hunting grounds, as well as the preferential survival of remains in such locations<sup>2</sup>. Assemblages are similarly centred in areas of particular geology, near to areas with flint-bearing rocks suitable for tool-making.
- 3.2.3 Within Buckinghamshire's HER there are approximately 400 records that refer to Palaeolithic finds. Few of these are the result of formal archaeological excavation but represent finds made during construction, quarrying or field walking. Where the condition of lithic finds is recorded the majority are described as rolled suggesting they were the result of secondary deposition. Far rarer discoveries such as at Station Pit in Taplow, approximately 25km to the south-west of the Proposed Scheme, comprise hundreds of lithic artefacts with very little evidence of degradation or rolling, suggesting that they are close to their original point of deposition, if not actually in-situ<sup>3</sup>.
- 3.2.4 The watercourses within the wider study area, specifically the River Misbourne, are local streams and tributaries and no river terraces or gravels are recorded which might be suitable for preserving re-deposited Palaeolithic remains. In the higher plateau areas, the chalk bedrock is overlain by Clay-with-Flints strata. Lowland areas are characterised by valley fills of periglacial colluvium (Head) and possible Holocene

<sup>2</sup> Wymer, J., (1968), *Lower Palaeolithic Archaeology in Britain: As Represented by the Thames Valley*, John Baker.

<sup>3</sup> Silva, B. and Farr, L., (2010), *Earliest Buckinghamshire*. In: M. Farley (Ed.), *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P1-27.

colluvium, for example within the Misbourne Valley. There are no alluvial deposits within the study area. In addition no cave sites or geology or topography suitable for such sites lie within the study area.

- 3.2.5 The Clay-with-Flints strata of the Chilterns are the main focus in this area for evidence of Palaeolithic activity. The understanding and interpretation of Palaeolithic material found on the surface and within Clay-with-Flints strata is difficult<sup>4</sup>,<sup>5</sup>. Scott-Jackson contends that the potential of the Palaeolithic resource on these landscapes has been recognised and that artefacts in Clay-with-Flints strata are largely in-situ and from depths of up to approximately 1m. The contrary view is that Clay-with Flints strata are re-deposited Palaeogene / Cretaceous sediments which may have been re-deposited into solution hollows during the Pleistocene, thereby incorporating reworked artefacts. The reworking is the reason why artefacts are buried to significant depths.
- 3.2.6 Much less research has been undertaken in Buckinghamshire than in counties such as Kent or Hampshire on these deposits and within the Buckinghamshire Chilterns no finds either of Palaeolithic artefacts or of palaeoenvironmental remains have yet been recorded from these exposures<sup>6</sup>. This may, however, reflect a less extensively recorded or understood resource, an absence of evidence rather than evidence of absence<sup>7</sup>.
- 3.2.7 Recent research specific to the Palaeolithic of Buckinghamshire comprises investigations undertaken by Oxford University in 2009 at Erriwig Farm, Arrewig Lane near Chesham, approximately 3km to the north-east of the Proposed Scheme<sup>8</sup>. A fairly cursory visual assessment of a brickearth pit within the Clay-with-Flints landscape failed to identify any artefacts of Palaeolithic date and fieldwalking, whilst yielding a number of Neolithic to Bronze Age lithics, produced nothing of Palaeolithic date. One aim of the fieldwork was to test Scott-Jackson's premise that these hilltop and plateau edges were very important to Palaeolithic people who from such vantage points could watch animal movements or groups of people whilst taking advantage of knappable flint or stone resources.
- 3.2.8 The notion that such artefacts could be considered broadly in-situ is important when considering the human activity and spatial distribution in this landscape during the Palaeolithic. The presumption, however, that these Clay-with-Flint strata have remained relatively stable throughout the Palaeolithic and Holocene means that artefacts of later prehistoric periods, Mesolithic to Bronze Age specifically, are also recovered in the same surface and near-surface contexts. There is little precisely stratified material, rather a palimpsest of material representing 500,000 years<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> Wenban-Smith, F., Bridgland, D.R. and Cramp, K., (2010), *Solent-Thames Research Framework Resource Assessment: The Lower / Middle Palaeolithic Period*.

<sup>5</sup> Scott-Jackson, J.E., (2000), *Lower and Middle Palaeolithic Artefacts from Deposits Mapped as Clay with Flints - A New Synthesis with Significant Implications for the Earliest Occupation of Britain*, Oxford, Oxbow Books.

<sup>6</sup> Wilkinson, K. and Hennessy, S., (2004), *An Assessment of the Archaeological Potential of Pleistocene Deposits in Hampshire*, University of Winchester.

<sup>7</sup> Silva, B., (2008), *An Archaeological Resource Assessment of the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic in Buckinghamshire. Prepared for the Solent-Thames Research Framework Resource Assessment: The Lower / Middle Palaeolithic Period*.

<sup>8</sup> Scott-Jackson, J.E., (2009), *Geo-archaeological Investigations at Arrewig Lane, near Chesham, Buckinghamshire – PADMAC Unit Report*. PADMAC Unit, University of Oxford.

<sup>9</sup> Wenban-Smith, F., Bridgland, D.R. and Cramp, K., (2010).

- 3.2.9 Within the study area Palaeolithic remains (circa 500,000 BC – 10,000 BC) are most likely to comprise discarded stone tools or the remains of animals that may have been exploited such as mammoth, elephant and bison. Usually these will not be within their original context but represent material that has been moved by fluvio-glacial action. The sole evidence to date within the study area comprises an unspecified artefact, possibly a handaxe, recovered as a chance surface find near a former chalk pit just south of Bacombe Hill during a metal detector rally in the Wendover area in 2004 (DWH094). A discovery of Pleistocene mammal remains is also recorded from a former gravel quarry to the north of Road Barn Farm (DWH157).
- 3.2.10 The Chiltern dip-slope is identified in the Solent Thames Archaeological Research Framework as having seen human activity from at least the Mesolithic (circa 10,000 BC – 4,000 BC) period (and probably from the Upper Palaeolithic (circa 50,000 BC – 10,000 BC) and that human activity through all periods has largely been concentrated in the principal valley systems, specifically within and immediately adjacent to the Misbourne Valley<sup>10</sup>.
- 3.2.11 Remains in the wider region dating from the Upper Palaeolithic (circa 50,000 BC – 10,000 BC) and Mesolithic (circa 10,000 BC – 4,000 BC) periods are to date similarly scarce to those of the earlier Palaeolithic. Such remains would comprise worked flint and stone (including microliths, which are recorded in greater numbers in the upland areas of Buckinghamshire than in the lowland valleys), bone scatters and other evidence reflecting the temporary camps of nomadic hunter-gatherer groups<sup>11</sup>. This evidence would be preserved as scatters of material within the ploughsoil and subsoil.
- 3.2.12 Mesolithic sites in the wider region are generally located on rising ground overlooking river valleys and watercourses, and are frequently found on sandy geology such as the Corallian Ridge and the Hampshire Greensand<sup>12</sup>. No such geologies lie within the study area which is dominated by chalk and a lack of the free-draining soils favoured by hunter-gatherers.
- 3.2.13 Hunter-gatherer groups in the later Mesolithic increasingly began to exploit a wider range of landscapes and localities<sup>13</sup>, potentially including the chalk slopes of the Misbourne Valley and plateau landscape that comprises the southern part of the study area and possibly the natural routeway through the valley north towards the Vale of Aylesbury. Given the established exploitation of the uplands elsewhere in Britain, there may be a potential, albeit quite low, for remains of this date to lie within the study area. Given the necessity of both water and other resources the landscape overlooking the River Misbourne may represent the best opportunity for the survival of such evidence.
- 3.2.14 There is some evidence on the Clay-with-Flints strata for surviving lithic artefacts of all dates, but artefacts of the Upper Palaeolithic-Early Mesolithic periods are particularly poorly recorded. To the west of High Wycombe at Turville artefacts of probable Early

<sup>10</sup> Silva, B., (2008).<sup>11</sup> Hey, G., (2010), *Solent-Thames Research Framework Resource Assessment: Late Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Period*.<sup>12</sup> Hey, G., (2010).<sup>13</sup> Barton, R.N.E and Roberts, A. J., (2004), *The Mesolithic period in England: current perspectives and new research*. In: A. Saville (Ed.), *Mesolithic Scotland and its Neighbours*, P339-358.

Mesolithic date were recovered from the Clay-with-Flints strata, comprising numerous cores, microliths and several tranchet axes<sup>14</sup>.

- 3.2.15 Within the study area only very occasional finds of Mesolithic flint flakes and tools such as blades and possible blade cores (some of which may possibly in fact be of Neolithic date) have been recovered during fieldwalking in three discrete localities; one on land to the west of Hunt's Green Farm (DWH162) on the Clay-with-Flints strata, one to the east of Chalkshire Farm (DWH114), and a third near Nashlee Farm (DWH130) on the Gault/Greensand deposits.
- 3.2.16 The Neolithic (circa 4,000 BC – 2,400 BC) period is generally characterised by more permanent settlement, a reduction in nomadic, transient hunter-gatherer group, and by the establishment of farming. Despite this shift to agriculture, hunting, gathering and fishing remained important to the local economies<sup>15</sup>.
- 3.2.17 Settlement evidence for the Early Neolithic commonly comprises flint and stone scatters, limited pottery remains and occasional cut features such as pits. Settlement enclosures and funerary monuments begin to be built in the landscape in the later Neolithic but are scarce and none are known within the study area. Evidence for this period elsewhere in Buckinghamshire suggests that settlement continued to be situated adjacent to watercourses<sup>16</sup> with evidence frequently recorded buried or concealed beneath colluvium<sup>17</sup>. In Marlow, approximately 18km to the south-west of the study area, evidence of early farming was recovered from two locations where Early Neolithic pottery was found, one of which also yielded organic remains and flint tools. Just to the north of the study area the only substantive Early Neolithic site known to date lies at Whiteleaf Barrow on the Chiltern Scarp overlooking Princes Risborough. This comprised an inhumation radiocarbon dated to circa 3760 -3640 calibrated (cal) BC set within a mortuary structure<sup>18</sup>. Some decades later this was capped over with a mound from which pottery, flint and animal bone were recovered<sup>19</sup>.
- 3.2.18 It may be the case that during the Neolithic sedentary agricultural practice was in the very early stages, with a continuing strong focus on small mobile groups ranging across the landscape in similar tradition to the Mesolithic. In the wider study area scatters of poorly dated flint tools and axes may be the traces left behind by such mobile communities who may have been herding cattle, planting and tending crops in temporary clearings<sup>20</sup>.
- 3.2.19 Finds of Middle and Late Neolithic pottery are rare in the Chilterns. Evidence from tree throw holes and pits has been recorded at Chesham<sup>21</sup>. The majority of sites around the county are found on well-drained gravel or limestone soils although

<sup>14</sup> Silva, B. & Farr, L., (2010).

<sup>15</sup> Thomas, J., (1999), *Understanding the Neolithic*, London, Routledge.

<sup>16</sup> Kidd, S., (2010), Prehistoric Farmers. In: M. Farley, (Ed.) *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P27-75.

<sup>17</sup> Bradley, R., (2010), *The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age*, The Solent-Thames Archaeological Research Framework.

<sup>18</sup> The calibrated years prefix (cal) indicates that the dates are the result of radiocarbon calibration using tree ring data. These values should correspond exactly to normal historical years BC and AD.

<sup>19</sup> Kidd, S., (2010).

<sup>20</sup> Kidd, S., (2010).

<sup>21</sup> Silva, B. & Farr, L.,(2010).

heavier soils were not avoided entirely, despite the difficulties posed to agricultural practice with the available tools.

- 3.2.20 Scatters of flint tools and debris recovered from the surface of ploughed fields around the county are less rare and more widely distributed. Flint is readily accessible in the chalk, especially in the south of the county and has been spread further across much of the county by glacial action. These scatters reflect both casual finds and systematic programmes such as fieldwalking and archaeological excavation and blank areas may not reflect absence as much as a lack of focussed fieldwork in such areas. A notable difficulty is the dating of such flint artefacts since few if any are associated with other artefacts and cannot be dated with precision alone. These flint scatters could therefore represent the remains of Neolithic and/or Bronze Age activity and could date to either period.
- 3.2.21 Concentrations of such flint artefact scatters are recorded in the Chess and Misbourne valleys. In contrast to the south of the study area, where the Clay-with-Flints strata is more widespread, only a few lithics have been recorded and none of these in areas of Clay-with-Flints. Fieldwalking and chance finds within the study area comprise only a small assemblage of flakes and tools. These have been recovered only from the northern half of the study area to the east of Chalkshire Farm (DWH114); a flake found just south of Wendover and an axe from a garden in Wendover (DWH076, DWH120); several flakes from fieldwalking to the south-east of Nashlee Farm and several from fieldwalking at North Lee Farm (DWH130, DWH144).
- 3.2.22 Despite the limitations presented by fieldwork to date, such flint scatters demonstrate that Neolithic communities were utilising the landscape throughout Buckinghamshire and were not restricted to the river valleys or the Chiltern Scarp. The fact that more flint axes and other finds come from the Chilterns as a whole than from further north in the county might be a genuine indication that the Chilterns was more densely populated and subject to more woodland clearance, although it could also reflect that these areas were the best source of raw materials and so saw more activity<sup>22</sup>. It is evident there is a reasonable potential elsewhere on the higher valley slopes and the plateau within the study area for the survival of scatters of flint tools and flakes dating from the Neolithic to Bronze Age.

### **3.3 Later prehistory (circa 1,500 BC - AD 43)**

- 3.3.1 The Bronze Age (circa 2,400 BC – 700 BC) is defined by the first usage of copper and bronze working in Britain as well as the introduction of Beaker pottery. The evidence for Bronze Age settlement is much scarcer than that for funerary activity. Early Bronze Age settlement evidence is likely to be broadly similar to that of the Neolithic comprising artefactual evidence and limited features, overwhelmingly cut pits.
- 3.3.2 As is the case in the Neolithic period, Early Bronze Age settlements are most likely to be found on rising ground overlooking watercourses and river valleys or other lighter free-draining soils, a reflection of the need for the resources and transportation provided by the major rivers. Unlike much of the rest of southern Britain evidence for

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<sup>22</sup> Kidd, S., (2010).

later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age ceremonial/burial monuments such as causewayed enclosures, henges and round barrows is absent from the Chiltern dip-slope and the Misbourne Valley.

- 3.3.3 Settlement evidence of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age date is much scarcer (typically comprising only shallow pits or scrapes) and where present may have been lost through slope erosion or buried under later colluvium. It is likely that settlement was a relatively mobile mosaic within a predominantly wooded landscape. No such features have to date been recorded within the study area.
- 3.3.4 Funerary remains are characterised by a shift from group burials and large group tombs to round barrows and individual burial, including the first recorded round barrows. These barrows are recorded across Britain and are found across the landscape, possibly reflecting territorial boundaries<sup>23</sup>. Barrows are more frequently extant in the uplands, reflecting both differential preservation due to differences in land use and also perhaps a reflection of the increasing exploitation of more marginal land.
- 3.3.5 Round barrows are not evenly distributed around the county. They were built mainly along the valley floors of the River Thames and River Ouse and along the Chiltern Icknield Belt where they are found both on the ridgeline and on lower ground<sup>24</sup>.
- 3.3.6 These monuments can be extant within the landscape as small mounds which can be difficult to interpret due to their physical similarity to mill mounds and other later features. These mounds may represent the extant elements of barrows. Round barrows also contain below-ground elements, including ring ditches and primary and secondary burials which may survive even when the barrow itself is destroyed. Three such barrows are recorded within the study area on Baccombe Hill, a high point located at the transition from the Chiltern Scarp to the Icknield Belt and the Vale of Aylesbury. These scheduled monuments comprise a bell barrow, a pond barrow and a bowl barrow (DWH100) and represent the only examples of their type in the wider area.
- 3.3.7 There is some evidence in the wider landscape, outside the study area of Neolithic and Bronze Age burnt mounds which are, however, quite well represented in the Misbourne Valley. Traditionally these tend to be located near a water supply and none such lie within the study area<sup>25</sup>.
- 3.3.8 As noted above flint artefacts are difficult to date precisely and can only be ascribed a broad Neolithic to Bronze Age date where found without associated dateable evidence. Therefore the scatters of flint tools and flakes found as a result of fieldwalking and more casual circumstances could be of Bronze Age origin. These comprise tools, cores and flakes recovered during fieldwalking at Hunt's Green Farm (DWH014); to the east of Chalkshire Farm (DWH114); south-east of Nashlee Farm (DWH130) and at North Lee Farm (DWH144).

<sup>23</sup> Watson, A., (2001), *Round Barrows in a Circular World: monumentalising landscapes in Early Bronze Age Wessex*. In: J. Brück (Ed.), *Bronze Age Landscapes: Tradition and Transformation*, Oxbow, Oxford, P207-216.

<sup>24</sup> Kidd, S., (2010).

<sup>25</sup> Kidd, S., (2009), *Buckinghamshire Late Bronze Age and Iron Age: Historic Environment Resource Assessment*, Buckinghamshire County Council.

- 3.3.9 The Middle Bronze Age (circa 1,500 BC - 1,100 BC) saw the first sustained settlement evidence with round houses, field enclosures and droveways all recorded elsewhere within Buckinghamshire. Settlement evidence for this period comprises more substantial cut features (including postholes, gullies, enclosures and paddocks), as well as pottery and bronze artefacts. Roundhouses are the typical settlement feature of the period, found both in isolation and in small groups. As with earlier periods these settlements are most likely to be found overlooking watercourses in landscapes with free-draining soils suitable for agriculture. Deforestation and woodland clearance expanded during this period<sup>26</sup>. This deforestation suggests there may be greater potential for settlement in the more marginal upland areas, including the flanks of the Misbourne Valley and the hillsides on the Chalklands further to the north of the study area.
- 3.3.10 A few metal finds have been recovered either during the course of metal detector surveys or by chance and these can be ascribed either broadly to the Bronze Age or specifically to the Middle Bronze Age. They comprise a gouge and an unidentified copper alloy object from surveys at Wendoverdean Farm and Manor Farm (DWHo42); two palstaves apparently found in a former gravel pit to the north of Road Barn Farm (DWH157); and a spearhead and two gold torcs found at Terrick (DWH133).
- 3.3.11 As well as settlement there is also evidence in the Bronze Age for early land division, evidence for which survives as extant landscape features elsewhere in Buckinghamshire. These divisions survive as shallow cut features as well as earthworks and large dykes. North of the Chilterns traces of later Bronze Age ditches are recorded at Aylesbury (Weedon Hill). Within the Chilterns there are areas where co-axial fields survive in places though their origin in the prehistoric period is still uncertain.
- 3.3.12 On a much larger scale the most substantial land boundary in the Chiltern landscape is Grim's Ditch which survives in two places within the study area: at its southern edge west of Hunt's Green Farm and north-east of King's Ash in Great Widmoor Wood (DWHoo8, DWHo77). Dating the monument is difficult, although it may have an origin in the 1st millennium BC<sup>27</sup>. Other smaller earthworks such as cross-ridge dykes may have similar origins. These occur along the Chiltern Scarp, north of the study area, for example at Whiteleaf Hill<sup>28</sup>.
- 3.3.13 Overall within the county the settlement evidence for the Later Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age is sparse. With the exception of occasional hilltop sites, some of which subsequently became defended hillforts, settlement occurred in open sites often occupied into later periods. These are very difficult to identify in the landscape from an archaeological perspective and in some instances may have been subsumed or destroyed by later settlement.
- 3.3.14 There is a reasonable potential throughout the study area for the survival of scatters of flint tools and flakes anywhere on the extensive Clay-with-Flints deposits of the

<sup>26</sup> Rackham, O., (2001), *Trees and Woodland in the British Landscape*, Phoenix Press, London.

<sup>27</sup> Kidd, S., (2010).

<sup>28</sup> Kidd, S., (2010).

higher valley side and plateau area. These could be of Neolithic to Bronze Age date. Evidence of settlement associated ceramic and metal artefacts and of organic remains is much less likely though cannot be ruled out.

- 3.3.15 The Bronze Age pattern of isolated farmsteads changes in the Iron Age (circa 700 BC – AD 43). This period saw the addition of larger settlements and more centralised features such as hillforts, of which the nearest, a slight univallate example (an enclosure surrounded by a single bank and ditch) is at Boddington Camp (Boddington Banks) to the east of Wendover (DWH122), and oppida (proto-urban centres), the nearest of which is at St Albans. These large settlements are rarer in Buckinghamshire than in some other parts of southern England such as Wessex. This may reflect a focus in the landscape more on livestock as opposed to arable agriculture. In addition no evidence of Iron Age funerary monuments is recorded within the study area, which is a sharp contrast to the landscapes to the south.
- 3.3.16 In the wider region there seems to be evidence for a concentration of activity to the north of the study area on the Gault Formation/Greensand Formation in the Vale of Aylesbury, at the foot of the Chilterns and in the Great Ouse Valley. There is also evidence of Iron Age settlement to the south of the study area. This concentration and density of settlement appears to be increasing from the Middle Iron Age (circa 400 BC - 100 BC) onwards.
- 3.3.17 There are hints that the existing woodland of the Chilterns contains further extensive landscape scale features and boundaries. Evidence of this may have been observed during work on the Ashridge Estate in Hertfordshire and it is also possible that the Chiltern beech woods may have their origins in the 1st millennium BC<sup>29</sup>.
- 3.3.18 Later prehistoric Buckinghamshire has much more in common with East Anglia rather than the Thames Valley. By the 1st century BC the area formed the western part of the territory of the Catuvellauni which had a major oppidum at St Albans.
- 3.3.19 The existence of large scale land division is evident at Grim's Ditch (DWH08, DWH077) and elsewhere, outside the study area where droveways, extensive field systems and palaeoenvironmental data all point to extensive land clearance having occurred by the Middle to Late Iron Age. Grim's Ditch may have been a tribal boundary feature, but is more likely to have been established for stock management, to constrain cattle being driven within valleys linking to the rivers Wye and Chess<sup>30</sup>.
- 3.3.20 All surviving sections of Grim's Ditch in the Chilterns have been subject to a condition survey and limited geophysical and intrusive investigation<sup>31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36</sup>. Iron Age pottery has been found in most of the intrusive surveys and it appears that the

<sup>29</sup> Morris, M. and Wainwright A., (1995), *Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and economy in the Upper Bulbourne Valley, Hertfordshire*. In: R. Holgate R (Ed.), *Chiltern Archaeology: Recent Work - A Handbook for the Next Decade*, The Book Castle, Dunstable, P68-75.

<sup>30</sup> Kidd, S., (2009).

<sup>31</sup> Network Archaeology, (1998), *Grim's Ditch an archaeological and management survey Phase II*, Network Archaeology, Buckingham.

<sup>32</sup> Network Archaeology, (1999), *Grim's Ditch an archaeological and management survey Phase III*, Network Archaeology, Buckingham.

<sup>33</sup> Heritage Network, (2003), *Land between Kiln Lodge and Kiln Barn, Lacey Green, An Archaeological Evaluation*, Heritage Network, Buckingham.

<sup>34</sup> Davis, J., (1981), *Grim's Ditch in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire*, Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 23, P23-31.

<sup>35</sup> Davis, J. and Evans, J.G., (1984), *Grim's Ditch, Ivinghoe*, Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 26, P1-10.

<sup>36</sup> Thorn, B., (1997), *An Archaeological and Management Survey of Grim's Ditch, Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire County Museum Archaeological Service, Report No 395.

monument was established in open grassland<sup>37</sup>. One section outside the study area at Lacey Green also preserved waterlogged remains<sup>38</sup>.

- 3.3.21 Late Bronze Age and Iron Age hillforts and cross-ridge dykes running perpendicular to the Chiltern Scarp elsewhere in the Chilterns have been thought to indicate a pattern of routeways that had been established before the Roman period<sup>39,40</sup>. These prehistoric cross-ridge dykes, all short earthworks that often run across promontories, are, however, possibly evidence of stock management rather than routeways. There is little real evidence for a network of prehistoric route ways in the central Chilterns although a co-axial landscape trend evident in surviving route ways and field boundaries has been identified. Boddington Camp (Boddington Banks), a slight univallate hillfort to the east of Wendover on Boddington Hill, is a scheduled monument occupying the summit of a steep-sided chalk spur (DWH122). The monument is oval in shape, measuring approximately 500m long by 220m wide and has an internal area of approximately 6ha. It lies with its long axis along the hilltop orientated north-east to south-west. Wendover Woods lies mainly east of the monument but the spur on which it is located is also heavily wooded now.
- 3.3.22 Larger scale societal divisions may well have been present from early in the Iron Age if not earlier but are not clear until the introduction of tribal coinages in the 1st century BC. There is little evidence for any centralisation from the Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age except for the limited number of hillforts on the Chiltern Scarp.
- 3.3.23 It is likely that population increase during the Iron Age may have necessitated farming on previously more marginal areas. The Clay-with-Flints strata on the flank of the Misbourne Valley is such a landscape. It has been established from mollusc and pollen evidence that the wider landscape had been largely cleared of woodland in the Bronze Age which may have further encouraged farming in the study area or been a result of the pressure to expand into new areas for arable agriculture and grazing<sup>41</sup>.
- 3.3.24 Within the study area evidence of activity in the later Bronze Age and Iron Age is to date identified solely by the recovery of surface finds during several fieldwalking surveys and metal detector rallies.
- 3.3.25 Occasional metal artefacts have been recovered from a series of rallies and by chance, mostly in the northern half of the study area. These comprise finds near Wendover Dean Farm and Manor Farm (DWH042), just east of Grove Farm (DWH076), at the foot of Coombe Hill where two silver coins and two gold coins were found (DWH095), at the foot of Baccombe Hill where a coin and a tanged chisel were found (DWH100), around Wellwick Farm (DWH111), to the east of the railway, just north of Wendover (DWH124), and south-east of Nashlee Farm (DWH130). During both fieldwalking surveys and metal detector rallies assemblages of Iron Age pottery have been recovered to the east of Chalkshire Farm (DWH114), to the east of the railway, north

<sup>37</sup> Davis, J. and Evans, J.G., (1984).

<sup>38</sup> Heritage Network, (2003).

<sup>39</sup> Bull, E.J., (1993), *The bi-axial landscape of prehistoric Buckinghamshire*, Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 35, P11-18.

<sup>40</sup> Williamson, T., (2002), *Shaping medieval landscapes: Settlement, Society, Environment*, Windgatherer Press, University of California.

<sup>41</sup> Kidd, S., (2010).

of Wendover (DWH124), to the south-east of Nashlee Farm and at the Chiltern Brewery at Nash Lee (DWH130, DWH132).

- 3.3.26 The apparent intensity of ceramic finds on the Gault and Greensands of the lower lying land north of Bacombe Hill strongly suggests a transition to more intensive use of the local landscape for agriculture, especially from the Late Iron Age onwards. Elsewhere to the south within and adjacent to the Misbourne Valley evidence of activity in the Iron Age is scarce.

### **A bowl barrow, bell barrow and pond barrow: two scheduled monuments on Bacombe Hill (DWH100)**

- 3.3.27 Bowl barrows, the most numerous form of round barrow, date predominantly to the Late Neolithic to Late Bronze Age, with most examples belonging between 2400-1500 BC. More than 10,000 are known nationally with most occurring across lowland Britain. The bowl barrow on Bacombe Hill survives well as a landscape feature and in the absence of previous investigation archaeological deposits within and beneath the mound will remain largely undisturbed. These will include funerary remains illustrating the date and function of the monument and the beliefs of the community which built it; and evidence preserved in the earlier ground surface buried beneath the mound which may indicate the character of the landscape in which it was constructed.
- 3.3.28 Bell barrows and pond barrows date predominantly to the Early and Middle Bronze Age with most examples belonging to the period 1500-1100 BC. Examples of each type can occur either in isolation or in round barrow cemeteries and were constructed as single or multiple mounds covering burials, often in pits, and surrounded by an enclosure ditch. The burials are frequently accompanied by weapons, personal ornaments and pottery and appear to be those of aristocratic individuals, usually men. Bell barrows are rare nationally, with less than 250 known examples, most of which are in the south west of England. Their richness in terms of grave goods provides evidence for chronological and cultural links amongst early prehistoric communities over most of southern and eastern England as well as providing an insight into their beliefs and social organisation. Pond barrows are rarer still, with only about 60 examples recorded nationally. They have a particularly high value for the future study of the nature and variety of belief in prehistoric communities.
- 3.3.29 The value of the barrows on Bacombe Hill lies in the well preserved state and the likelihood that they will retain significant archaeological information which will illustrate the function of the monuments and the beliefs of the community which built them. Views from the monuments also pose wider questions about the nature and location of associated Bronze Age settlement in this part of the Chiltern Hills.

### **Grim's Ditch (DWH008)**

- 3.3.30 The Grim's Ditch scheduled monument is known along its entire length as the Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire Grim's Ditch. There are numerous surviving sections from within three main linear earthworks aligned along the Chiltern Hills between Bradenham and Berkhamsted and spanning a total distance of 18km. Two of these lie within the study area - the 350m long section extending north-east from Cottage Farm (DWH008), and a 1500m long section, also a scheduled monument,

which runs broadly north along the west side of Widmoor Wood and into Mercer's Wood before changing direction and running north-east through Oaken Grove (DWH077). It does not appear that these principal sections were ever joined to form a continuous boundary. Current evidence suggests that the sometimes quite sizeable gaps represent areas which were formerly forested or in which natural features served to perpetuate a natural division of the land. The same pattern has been discerned along the North Oxfordshire Grim's Ditch to the west of the River Thames. A further comparable linear boundary, the Moel Ditch, extends to the east across parts of neighbouring Bedfordshire.

- 3.3.31 For the most part the visible sections of Grim's Ditch in the Chilterns include a wide single ditch flanked by a bank of upcast earth, which is always upslope of the ditch. Other features include a turf core within the bank, a berm separating the bank and ditch (concealed over time by the spread of the bank material) and a trench for a fence or palisade along the outer edge of the ditch. The Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire Grim's Ditch is thought to have served as a territorial boundary, separating, and perhaps enclosing, organised groups of land and settlement. It may also have been an agricultural boundary, denoting grazing areas and impeding the movement of stock. Excavations elsewhere along its length have recovered small assemblages of pottery indicating that it was in existence in the Iron Age. As such, the boundary provides important evidence for the management of the landscape in the centuries preceding the Roman Conquest in AD 43, although it may have a considerably earlier origin. It remained a notable feature in later centuries, acquiring its present name (a variation on the name of the god, Odin) at some point in the early medieval period, perhaps during the period of pagan Saxon settlement in the 5th and 6th centuries. The earliest recorded use of the term 'Grim's Ditch' occurs in a charter granted by Edward, Earl of Cornwall in 1291.
- 3.3.32 The section of Grim's Ditch extending north-east from Cottage Farm survives well as a visible earthwork along most of its length and provides an insight into the nature of early territorial and division in the Chiltern Hills. It will contain archaeological evidence for the manner of its construction as well as environmental evidence for the appearance of the landscape in which it was built. The archaeological evidence may also include artefacts or scientific dating material from which to determine the period of its construction and the duration of its maintenance as an active boundary.
- 3.3.33 As a monument type such linear boundaries represent substantial earthwork and cropmark features in the landscape. The evidence of excavation and study of associated monuments demonstrate that their construction spans the millennium from the Middle Bronze Age (circa 1,500 BC - circa 1,000 BC), although they may have been reused later. The scale of many linear boundaries has been taken to indicate that they were constructed by large social groups and were used to mark important boundaries in the landscape; their impressive scale displaying the corporate prestige of their builders. They would have been powerful symbols, often with religious associations, used to define and order the territorial holdings of those groups who constructed them. Surviving examples such as the section of Grim's Ditch within the study area are of considerable importance for the analysis of settlement and land use in the Bronze Age and Iron Age.

## 3.4 Romano-British (AD 43-410)

- 3.4.1 Changes in settlement patterns in Buckinghamshire in the Late Iron Age/Roman Period have been described as "subtle rather than dramatic"<sup>42</sup>. Indeed there is sufficient evidence to point to continuity of settlement from the Late Iron Age through the Roman period and onwards into the post-Conquest (AD 43) period<sup>43</sup>. The study area during this period formed part of the civitas of the Catuvellauni.
- 3.4.2 Settlement of Roman date is usually more extensive in scale than that of later prehistory, with a greater variety of material culture (including new pottery typologies, metalwork and glass); there is also widespread use of stone, brick and tile for building. In addition, the establishment of the Roman road network had a major effect on the landscape, leading to the establishment of new settlements and the growth of existing centres.
- 3.4.3 Generally there appears to be an increase in population and settlement density between the 1st century BC and 1st century AD, although even here there is evidence for some abandonment and dislocation. Abandonment of settlement locations appears to be widespread from the 2nd century which may reflect a fundamental reorganisation of the countryside with evidence for differential development marked by the establishment in the Chilterns of villas. This re-organisation was radical and allowed the support of a growing and complex pattern of settlement for the next 300 years.
- 3.4.4 The pattern of rural settlement in Buckinghamshire was of dispersed agrarian villas and farmsteads. These ranged in size from small farmsteads with roundhouses through to small farms with Roman-style buildings and more substantial villas. The more productive agricultural land in the county, such as the chalk marl and Greensand of the Icknield Way corridor, the Portland ridge through Aylesbury, and to a lesser extent the Chiltern valleys has concentrations of villas and farms orientated on arterial roads linking farms to urban markets<sup>44</sup>.
- 3.4.5 Villas developed from agrarian settlements in the late 1st to early 2nd century AD; in the Chilterns they appear to be spread at approximately 2-3km intervals, suggesting a formal division of land with individual estates of approximately 180 - 240ha by the 2nd century<sup>45</sup>. The Chiltern villas were relatively rich by the 4th century suggesting they may have been held by landowners and other elites with interests in St Albans and/or even London<sup>46</sup>. Evidence for this wealth comes from coin hoards identified at Chalfont St Peter<sup>47</sup>, Great Missenden<sup>48</sup> and Mantles Green<sup>49</sup>.

<sup>42</sup> Kidd, S., (2010), P58.

<sup>43</sup> Zeepvat, R J. and Radford, D., (2010), *Roman Buckinghamshire*. In: M. Farley (Ed.) *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P75-109.

<sup>44</sup> Zeepvat, R J., and Radford, D. (2010).

<sup>45</sup> Branigan, K., (1973), *Town and Country: The archaeology of Verulamium and the Roman Chilterns*, Spurbooks Ltd.

<sup>46</sup> Zeepvat, R. J., (1991), *Roman Milton Keynes*, Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit.

<sup>47</sup> Hunn, J.R. and Farley, M., (1995), *The Chalfont St Peter Coin Hoard 1989*. Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 37, P113-126.

<sup>48</sup> Farley, M., (1999), *Fieldwalking at Waddesdon: A Report for Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society*.

<sup>49</sup> Yeoman, P.A. and Stewart, I.J., (1992), *A Romano-British Villa Estate at Mantles Green, Buckinghamshire*. Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 34, P107-182.

- 3.4.6 Probable villas are known within the study area only at a site to the north-east of Terrick (DWH133). Elsewhere, one other villa is known at Cobblers Hill to the south-west of Wendover outside the study area<sup>50</sup>. The site near Terrick was excavated in the 19th century when the foundations of a building were recorded along with a range of artefacts and animal bone. More recently fieldwalking and metal detector surveys have yielded further finds.
- 3.4.7 Metal detector rallies and fieldwalking have also yielded numerous artefacts comprising a few coins and a significant assemblage of pottery, tile and some slag from fields around Wellwick Farm (DWH111). There is a high potential that these finds are indicative of the location of a high status Romano-British building, possibly another villa. A Romano-British cremation was also discovered during this work. Traces of organic deposits and iron nails suggest that the remains were placed in a two handled flagon inside a wooden box along with two glass vessels, eight ceramic vessels, a lead lamp and the head of an adze-hammer.
- 3.4.8 Just east of the Aylesbury to Marylebone Line north of Wendover metal detector rallies have also yielded a range of metal artefacts including a number of coins and two brooches along with large quantities of pottery (DWH124). These artefacts may once again be associated with the site of a Romano-British building, or perhaps be more widely dispersed remains associated with the possible building to the east of Wellwick Farm (DWH111). Another focus of 2nd to 3rd century pottery and possible building remains was recorded to the south-east of Nashlee Farm (DWH130) where sherds of samian ware pottery and tile were recovered. This may also be an extension of the activity centred on the probable villa site north-east of Terrick.
- 3.4.9 Elsewhere the Nash Lee Road works in advance of the Wendover bypass yielded a number of coins, tile, stone and pottery, again indicative of the possible remains of a former building (DWH126). It could be that farmsteads of the period were aligned to the Lower Icknield Way (DWH129) or a precursor to that route since it may be of Middle Saxon or even of post-medieval origin<sup>51</sup>. Supposedly the Icknield Way formed part of a wider network of prehistoric routes in this case running from Wessex to East Anglia. Excavation at Aston Clinton on part of the Lower Icknield Way showed it could be of no earlier than Saxon origin at that point.
- 3.4.10 Occasional metal and ceramic artefacts have also been recovered throughout the study area either by chance or during metal detector rallies and fieldwalking surveys. They have been found at Hunt's Green Farm (DWH014), east of Dutchlands Farm (DWH023), around Wendover Dean and Manor Farm (DWH042), to the east of Chalkshire Farm (DWH114), at the putative site of the former Birche's Peece brick makers south of Wendover (DWH076), in the grounds of Wendover House School (DWH117), from gardens in Wendover (DWH120), and at North Lee (DWH144).
- 3.4.11 Evidence for industry has also been identified. Evidence of iron smelting has been found at Mantles Green, Amersham<sup>52, 53</sup> and Great Missenden<sup>54</sup>. Furthermore the

<sup>50</sup> Farley, M., (2010), *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury.

<sup>51</sup> Farley, M., (2010).

<sup>52</sup> David, A., (1982), *Amersham Bypass: Ancient Monuments Lab Report*, Geophysics G11/82.

recovery of large quantities of iron slag from woodland surveys in the Chilterns suggests that iron working sites were widespread. Examples include Common Wood near Penn<sup>55</sup>, the National Trust's Ashridge Survey and the Chiltern Woodland Survey. Only a single piece of slag was recovered to the east of Wellwick Farm (DWH111).

- 3.4.12 The continued prevalence or re-establishment of woodland on the Chiltern Scarp and dip-slope during the Roman period (AD 43 - AD 410) or early medieval period (AD 410 – AD 1066) has been suggested<sup>56</sup> but has not been reliably proven. Excavations at Mantles Green, Amersham in the Misbourne Valley do, however, suggest the presence of mixed oak/alder/beech woodland with ash becoming more prevalent as woodland is cleared<sup>57</sup>.
- 3.4.13 Little excavated settlement evidence of Roman date has yet been identified within the study area, with the exception of the 19th century work at Terrick and clues to the location of possible buildings derived from fieldwalking and metal detector surveys. This is very likely to be due to a lack of excavation in the area rather more than an anticipated dearth of settlement.

## 3.5 Early medieval (AD 410-1066)

- 3.5.1 Evidence for the post-Roman transition period in Buckinghamshire is extremely rare and poorly understood. Understanding the archaeology of the 5th to 7th centuries AD is very challenging as material culture is drastically reduced. Handmade Anglo-Saxon pottery does not survive well in plough soils and coinage is only present in the wider region reliably from the Middle Saxon (circa AD 700) period onwards. This may indicate refocusing of settlement onto lighter soils in the post-Roman period<sup>58</sup>.
- 3.5.2 The later Saxon and early medieval periods are also generally less visible in terms of archaeological remains with little physical evidence dating to the period known from within the study area.
- 3.5.3 The prehistoric Grim's Ditch earthwork (DWH008, DWH077) remained a notable feature in later centuries, acquiring its present name (a variation on the name of the Norse god, Odin) perhaps during the period of pagan Saxon settlement in the 5th and 6th centuries. With the exception of this earthwork only very occasional artefacts and putative structural remains have been identified. From around Wendover House School there is evidence of a cobbled floor and a few sherds of pottery (DWH117), from elsewhere in Wendover another possible cobbled floor, a few sherds of pottery and fragmentary human skeletal remains (DWH120).
- 3.5.4 By the time of the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) the present settlement pattern had probably been broadly established and was focused on the town and manor of

<sup>53</sup> Yeoman, P., (1984), *Mantles Green, Amersham*. Britannia Vol. 49, P266-332.

<sup>54</sup> Head, J.F., (1964), *A Romano-British site at Great Missenden*. Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 17.4, P228-231.

<sup>55</sup> Edwards, Y. and Wells, M., (2006), *Common Wood earthwork and enclosure: A Footnote for 2006*. Chess Valley Journal.

<sup>56</sup> Edgeworth, M., (2006), *Changes in the Landscape: Archaeological Investigations of an Iron Age Enclosure on the Stoke Hammond Bypass*. Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 46, P119-148.

<sup>57</sup> Miles, A. (1992), "The Charcoal", In: P.A. Yeoman and Stewart, I.J., *A Romano-British Villa Estate at Mantles Green*, Buckinghamshire. Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 34.

<sup>58</sup> Zeepvat, R. J. and Radford, D., (2007), *Roman Buckinghamshire*, (draft) Solent-Thames Research Framework.

Wendover, recorded in the Domesday Book. The name Wendover, meaning white waters, may be of Old English origin. The will of Ælfheah the Ældorman of Hampshire and Wiltshire, dating from between AD 965 and 971, is the earliest known documentary reference to Wendover, referring to land ownership in Ægelesbyrig/Aylesbury and Wændofron/Wendover<sup>59</sup>.

- 3.5.5 Elsewhere throughout the study area occasional artefacts have come to light during fieldwalking or metal detector surveys, or as chance finds. These comprise; a 6th century saucer brooch found just west of Wellwick Farm (DWH113); a few pottery sherds from fields to the east of Chalkshire Farm (DWH114); a fragment of a gilded disc brooch found during metal detecting south-east of Wendover (DWH121); another brooch and silver strap end found during metal detecting east of the railway just north of Wendover (DWH124); and a few sherds of pottery found during fieldwalking south-east of Nashlee Farm and at Terrick (DWH130, DWH134).
- 3.5.6 Many early medieval settlements are likely to have been precursors to extant villages making identification difficult. Wendover is such an example and villages such as The Lee with a very evident medieval focus may be another. The transition from dispersed to nucleated villages is likely to have been largely concealed by subsequent development. Certainly by the Norman Conquest the present settlement pattern focussed on Wendover had probably been established.
- 3.5.7 The landscape within the study area during this period was probably at least partially wooded, though ascertaining to what degree is no easier a task than ascertaining the extent of settlement. It is probable that the woodland distribution did not change much from the earlier Roman period and that the extensive agricultural landscape of mixed arable and pastoral practices was broadly sufficient for much of the period.
- 3.5.8 In terms of agriculture during the period there is only a little evidence around the county of enclosures associated with buildings and still less of field boundaries of the type familiar in the Roman period. There may have been more use made of unditched hedgerows which would leave little archaeological trace<sup>60</sup>. It may be that the open field systems common in the medieval period were first developed in the early medieval period but there is no firm evidence for this. Certainly between the 8th and 10th centuries great change occurred in Buckinghamshire's landscape. Farmed land associated with settlements was divided up into large fields, each then divided into furlongs and then again into ploughable strips of land. Another important element of the early medieval landscape in the Chilterns is the presence of a number of parishes along the Chiltern edge of elongated form extending from good arable land into less cultivable land and woodland on the Chiltern plateau. The survival of some of these less desirable areas of poor land can be seen in areas of commons and heath<sup>61</sup>.

<sup>59</sup> Page, W. (ed.), 1905: *The Victoria County History of Buckingham, Volume 1*, London.

<sup>60</sup> Farley, M., (2010).

<sup>61</sup> Farley, M., (2010).

## 3.6 Medieval (1066-1540)

- 3.6.1 In the earlier part of the period between the 11th and 13th centuries, Buckinghamshire's population grew and expanded into, and cultivated more of, the previously marginal land and woodland areas as in other parts of England. Settlements proliferated at this time and the foundation of most of the towns in the county occurred too. Growth halted as a result of the Black Death in the 14th century and many settlements shrank or were abandoned, with much of the land least suited to arable agriculture being taken out of cultivation. In Buckinghamshire as a whole there are 119 examples where village shrinkage has been noted on the ground<sup>62</sup>. There are also 83 known examples of abandoned village sites around the county, mostly concentrated in the north. None are known within the study area. Further research may shed more light on the extent to which dispersed settlements in the Chilterns, and within it the study area, experienced the same fate as the villages to the north of the Chiltern edge.
- 3.6.2 The broad pattern of landscape and settlement which exists in the study area today was laid out during the early medieval and medieval periods. Settlement is clustered in villages focussing predominantly on Wendover, and small villages and hamlets surrounded by agricultural hinterlands. There are also occasional manors and dispersed farmsteads. This broadly rural and agricultural settlement pattern would have been set amongst fairly extensive parcels of managed woodland. Woodland may have remained more prolific on the less cultivable soils of the southern part of the study area on the higher slopes to east and west of the valley. The Domesday survey of 1086 also reflects this concentration of woodland in the Chilterns as a whole. Ploughed land was most prevalent in the north of the Chilterns which is a strong indicator that a focus of village and farming settlement in the Chilterns lay to the north around Wendover and towards the Vale of Aylesbury on the Gault Formation and Greensand geology.
- 3.6.3 The first settlement at Wendover appears to have been focused around St Mary's Church to the south of the modern town (DWH117) or the former manor site. It was probably agricultural in nature. This part of the town lies in a defensible position between the two parts of the Chiltern Ridge and is also the location of the site of Wendover Manor<sup>63</sup>. Evidence of medieval settlement comprising pits and a few artefacts has been recovered during various building works and also during an archaeological watching brief at Wendover House School (DWH117).
- 3.6.4 The centre of the settlement probably moved to its present location during the late 12th or early 13th century (DWH120). The new location was on the main east-west road that skirts the foot of the Chilterns and allowed the settlement to take advantage of passing traffic. It is also likely that much of the modern layout of minor roads and trackways surrounding and linking with Wendover date back to at least the medieval period. The Upper Icknield Way passes through the historic core of the town rather

<sup>62</sup> Taylor-Moore, K., (2010), *Medieval Buckinghamshire*. In: M. Farley (Ed.), *An Illustrated History of Early Buckinghamshire*, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, Aylesbury, P151-181.

<sup>63</sup> Aylesbury Vale District Council, (2011), *Wendover Conservation Area Appraisal*.

than the earlier site of Wendover Manor (DWH119). The core of the town is designated as a conservation area.

- 3.6.5 Within the town there is only one listed building of medieval origin, the Grade II\* listed Bank Farmhouse on Tring Road (DWH120). In the earlier core of the medieval town centred on the former manor, and also in the conservation area, the parish Church of St Mary is of 14th century origin, and the associated lychgate and churchyard wall are of 19th century origin (DWH117). Both are Grade II\* listed.
- 3.6.6 The administrative organisation of the land and people was based on the manor and where excavated, such sites have been found to have their origins in the 12th century or later, though the manorial system has its origins prior to the Norman Conquest. Lords and landowners in Buckinghamshire ranged from the king, bishops and aristocracy to the minor gentry and as time went on, the Oxford colleges. These manorial sites took a number of forms and although many were manor houses, some originated as castles whilst others were religious houses or monastic granges. All had an agricultural focus as evidenced by the occasional remains of fishponds, dovecotes, warrens and mills set amongst arable fields, meadows, woodlands and wastes<sup>64</sup>.
- 3.6.7 Manor houses during the period were commonly surrounded by moats, the building of which peaked between circa 1200 – 1325, a notable period of growth and prosperity. Over 160 moated sites are known in the county with the highest density along the northern edge of the Chilterns immediately below the scarp. Few are recorded in the Chilterns away from the northern edge but there are a number of woodland earthwork enclosures perhaps related to small woodland settlements. It is likely that these lesser settlements were occupied by wealthy tenants rather than manorial lords.
- 3.6.8 Outside Wendover evidence for medieval activity comprises earthwork and buried remains of three scheduled monument moated farmsteads to the west of Terrick (DWH134); the moated site at Grove Farm (DWH140); and another at Apsley Manor Farm (DWH146). Less well preserved and non-designated remains of moated sites also survive at the Chiltern Brewery, Nash Lee (DWH132) and at North Lee, where aerial photographs may indicate the presence of below ground remains (DWH144).
- 3.6.9 Examples of moated sites such as these form a significant class of medieval monument and are important for the understanding of the distribution of wealth and status in the countryside. These three scheduled monument moated sites survive well and will retain buried evidence for structures and other features relating to the period of occupation. The buried silts in the base of their respective moat ditches will also contain artefacts relating to the period of occupation and environmental evidence for the appearance of the landscape in which the moated site was set.
- 3.6.10 During a trial trenching exercise in 2011 at the Chiltern Brewery site at Nash Lee, a buried soil layer 0.1m thick containing medieval pottery was recorded (DWH132). The condition of the pottery suggests that the site had been ploughed in the late 11th century but that ploughing had ceased by the 12th century. Close by medieval sherds have also been found in the orchard at Nashlee Farm and during a fieldwalking survey

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<sup>64</sup> Taylor-Moore, K. (2010).

to the east of Nash Lee Farm (DWH132). The area is thought to represent the probable remains of the former medieval settlement of Nash Lee Green.

- 3.6.11 The Lee has its origins in the medieval period and is designated a conservation area. The medieval core of the village comprises boundary earthworks and evidence of a hollow-way and moat focussed around Church Farm and the Old Church of St John the Baptist, a Grade I listed building of 12th century origin (DWH022). The manor is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey though there are references to it in the Cartulary of Missenden Abbey<sup>65</sup>.
- 3.6.12 There is evidence elsewhere of settlement activity in the form of isolated low earthworks or buried remains including possible house platforms in Wendover (DWH117). A substantial medieval pond was identified at the Romano-British villa site at Terrick, depicted on the 1805 Ellesborough Enclosure map (DWH133). Here late 11th to early 13th century pottery was recovered from the primary fills, and 20th century backfilling or consolidation layers sealed the secondary fills. Two gullies and a possible north-south leat, water channel or pond were also identified. The remains of another large fishpond at the scheduled monument moated site at Grove Farm (DWH140) and others occur at the scheduled monument moated site west of Terrick (DWH134).
- 3.6.13 Documentary evidence of lands acquired by Missenden Abbey points to the presence of a medieval to post-medieval farmstead at Mayertorne Manor probably centred on the 18th century farmhouse of the same name (DWH043). There are also records of milling at Clerk's Mill and Poyntz Mills (DWH076), attached to Wendover Manor. These may have been the Upper Mill and Nether Mill recorded on the present site. Poyntz Mills is recorded in the 13th to 16th centuries as two fulling mills attached to Wyvelsgate Manor. There is also documentary and cropmark evidence for possible location of a former medieval chantry chapel and hospital of St John the Baptist somewhere close to, or in, Wendover (DWH116). The putative identity of this site via cropmarks identified on the Remote Sensing survey (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, J21) on land between Baccombe Lane and Ellesborough Road is highly speculative though. There is a far stronger likelihood that these cropmarks represent the remains of medieval to post-medieval field boundaries or agricultural enclosures.
- 3.6.14 Elsewhere within the study area medieval artefacts have been recovered in fieldwalking surveys and at metal detector rallies and as chance finds around Wendover Dean Farm and Manor Farm (DWH042), south-east of Nashlee Farm (DWH130), and at North Lee Farm (DWH144), which could indicate potential locations of dispersed medieval settlements. Isolated ceramic and metal finds have also been recovered at Hunt's Green Farm (DWH014), east of Wellwick Farm (DWH111), just south of Wendover near the former site of Birche's Peece Brickworks (DWH076), east of the railway, just north of Wendover (DWH124), and near Boddington Hill (DWH121).
- 3.6.15 Surviving medieval ridge and furrow is not well represented in the study area but is recorded to the north of Wendover (DWH125) and north of Dodd's Farm (DWH145).

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<sup>65</sup> Chiltern District Council, (1998), *The Lee Conservation Area Booklet*.

LiDAR imagery indicates other possible remnants east of Stoke Grove Farm (DWH143; Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, J39) and just south of Nash Lee Road (DWH153; Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, J38). The Remote Sensing survey (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010) has also identified a possible water meadow or later drainage system visible as a network of interconnecting ditches to the north of Wendover (DWH154). There is no evidence of a connecting watercourse linked to the system which would be required for the formation of a water meadow, and as such this could indicate that the network was created for field drainage.

- 3.6.16 Outside the primary settlements of Wendover and The Lee there are only two other examples of surviving medieval buildings within the study area. These are Hale Farmhouse, just south of Wendover Woods, a Grade II\* listed building of 15th century origin, altered and extended in the early 17th century (DWH090) and Apsley Manor, an early 16th century house since much altered (DWH146).
- 3.6.17 The surviving distribution of ancient woodlands within the study area is something of a reflection of the probably quite heavily-wooded landscape of the medieval period. It is likely that surviving elements of former medieval woodlands have been reduced in area over the intervening centuries. Within the study area there are 18 woodlands thought to have origins in the medieval period. These comprise King's Wood (DWH006), Hawthorn Wood (DWH017), Cockshoots Wood (DWH018), Hamdenleaf Wood (DWH020), Rushmoor Wood (DWH021), Jones' Hill Wood (DWH030), Sermon's Wood (DWH055), Grove Wood (DWH058), Lordling Wood (DWH067), Ming's Wood (DWH073), High Scrubs (DWH073), Chisley/Fugsden Wood (DWH074), two un-named woodlands (DWH075), Barn Wood (DWH078), Mercer's Wood (DWH079), Baldwin's Wood (DWH081), Coxgrove Wood (DWH087) and Hale Wood (DWH123).
- 3.6.18 It is likely that further research will confirm that the pattern of scattered settlement set within a relatively heavily wooded landscape established in the medieval period forms the basis for the pattern that continued through the post-medieval period (1539 – 1900) to the present day.

## 3.7 Post-medieval (1540-1900)

- 3.7.1 In the wider region the post-medieval period witnessed the widespread abandonment of the medieval agricultural organisation based on open fields with its ridge and furrow strips divided by headlands. This was replaced by enclosed fields, both for arable production and to provide enclosed pasture. The enclosure of the landscape commenced in the later medieval period and accelerated after the final dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII between 1536 and 1539 which brought more land into private ownership.
- 3.7.2 The landscape within the study area was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion from the 16th century onwards, evidenced by surviving elements of pre-18th century enclosure close to The Lee and surrounding farmsteads on the upper eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley and plateau (DWH156). Subsequently an organised programme of parliamentary enclosure was carried out in the 18th and 19th centuries. This led to the regular, more rectilinear fields, recorded in parts of the study area set amongst earlier less-regularly laid out pre 18th century fields.

- 3.7.3 The character of settlement evidence becomes one in which surviving built structures are more prevalent and buried evidence, such as ceramic remains and metal objects similar to that of medieval date, survive quite extensively but typically in greater quantity and variety than previously.
- 3.7.4 Several large houses and farmhouses established either by the gentry or wealthier farming families are present within the Misbourne Valley and Icknield Belt landscapes and tend to a greater or lesser extent to be associated with surrounding planned estates, parks and gardens. These include the Grade II listed Wendover House School, formerly known as Wendover Manor House (DWH117) and possibly the Grade II\* listed Wellwick Manor though, no formal gardens have been identified around it (DWH109). Possible remains of a formal garden have been identified on aerial photographs and by field survey adjacent to the Grade II listed 18th century Smalldean Farmhouse (DWHo83) and a 19th century formal garden and parkland is depicted on historic maps at the Grade II listed Mayertorne Manor (DWHo43).
- 3.7.5 There are two rural farmsteads in the study area that have an early post-medieval origin. Field End Grange to the south-east of The Lee is a Grade II listed building of 16th century date (DWHo15) and Seyton's Manor is also Grade II listed and lies to the west of Terrick (DWH136).
- 3.7.6 The majority of farmsteads and isolated cottages within the study area were built between the 17th and 19th centuries. These include Hunt's Green Farmhouse (DWHo07), Cobblershill Farm (DWHo19), Manor Farm and Mayertorne Manor (DWHo43), Wendover Dean Farm (DWHo45), Upper Wendoverdean Farm (DWHo53), Bassibones Farmhouse (DWHo59), Rab's Corner (DWHo60), King's Ash Farm (DWHo61), two public houses, the Gate and the Halfway House (DWHo66, DWHo70), Smalldean Farm (DWHo83), The Hale (DWHo90), Jasmine Cottage (DWHo93), Little Acre and Dunrobin at Butler's Cross (DWH104, DWH105), the barns at Wellwick Farm (DWH109), Malthouse Farm, Chalkshire Farm, The Plough and Terrick House at Terrick (DWH110, DWH127, DWH135), Old Mill House (DWH118) and Nashlee Farm (DWH147). Elsewhere the majority of buildings of these dates are focussed within the settlements of Wendover (DWH117, DWH120) and to a far lesser extent The Lee (DWHo22).
- 3.7.7 Within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme there are several non-designated buildings of 19th century origin, which are depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). These comprise Durham Farm at the end of Bowood Lane (DWHo44), Road Barn Farm on the A413 (DWHo82), and numbers 30–40 Ellesborough Road (DWHo96).
- 3.7.8 There are three further listed structures of 19th century date within the study area. A ship's figurehead from the Admiral Lord Howe at Pipers (DWHo16); the Diamond Jubilee Well dating to 1897, at Lee Common (DWHo59); and a monument commemorating the Boer War 1899-1902 on Coombe Hill (DWH o91).
- 3.7.9 More recently built farms depicted from at least the 1st Edition OS maps of the late 19th century now occupy land formerly farmed either on a wider scale by some of those farms already mentioned or by former now lost farms. These comprise

Dutchlands Farm off the A413 London Road (DWH163), Strawberry Hill Farm on King's Lane (DWH033), Cuckoo Farm just off Rocky Lane, now called Rocketer Cottage and Cuckoo Farm Barn (DWH080), Wellhead Farm on Hale Road (DWH169), Dodd's Farm (DWH141), and North Lee Farm on North Lee Lane (DWH144). Other buildings of note include the non-designated Refuge on Bowood Lane (DWH164), Strawberry Hill Cottage (DWH149), Sainfoin (DWH150) and a cottage (DWH165) south of Hunt's Green Farm all on King's Lane, Robertswood Cottage (DWH167) and Chiltern Cottage (DWH168) on Chesham Lane, Wellhead Cottage on Hogtrough Lane (DWH170), numbers 10-28 Ellesborough Road (DWH158), The Coach House at Nashlee Farm (DWH171), The Gables on Nash Lee Road (DWH172) and buildings at the hamlets of Hunt's Green (DWH166) and Terrick (DWH173).

- 3.7.10 The potential remains of a number of former small extractive pits are scattered throughout the study area, the majority of which are not recorded on historic mapping (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010).
- 3.7.11 Post-medieval industry is represented within the study area by a former brickworks recorded in the 17th century as Birche's Peece Brickworks and thought to have been located close to Grove Farm (DWH076). There is also cartographic and landscape evidence of a number of chalk pits, clay pits and a gravel pit. Two are located close to Grim's Ditch (DWH008), one in Barn Wood (DWH078), one in Rushmoor Wood (DWH021), one in Jones' Hill Wood (DWH030), one near Strawberry Hill Cottage (DWH148), one to the south-east of Grove Farm (DWH157), and one at the foot of the southern slope of Baccombe Hill (DWH094).
- 3.7.12 Mills were a primary source of power through to the mid 18th century and those which are recorded during the medieval period at Clerk's Mill and Poyntz Mills (DWH076), are likely to have continued their trade into the post-medieval period. Clerk's Mill may have been located in the vicinity of the Old Mill House, a Grade II listed building at the modern Wellhead Farm (DWH118).
- 3.7.13 In terms of communications within the study area the primary route probably throughout the period would have been the London Road passing through the study area from the south along the valley floor and onwards to Wendover and Aylesbury. This was turnpiked in the later 18th century and is recorded on Jeffreys' map of Buckinghamshire in 1751 (DWH160). One milestone which may date to the occasion of the turnpiking is located along its length to the south of Road Barn Farm (DWH071). In the north of the study area too, another turnpike road is recorded, again by Jeffreys', passing north to south along the Risborough Road, then east along the Nash Lee Road entering Wendover from the north (DWH161). A milestone in the south of Wendover is likely to be associated with its former route (DWH117).

## 3.8 Twentieth century/modern (1901-present)

- 3.8.1 The route of the former Aylesbury to Chorleywood railway line, built by Great Central Railways in the 1880s, lies within the study area passing through the Misbourne Valley and on towards Wendover and Aylesbury (DWH159). It is depicted on 2nd Edition OS mapping (1898-1900) as part of the Metropolitan Railway. The Great Central Railway was the last of the great Victorian mainline railway projects and was opened in 1899 to

link London, with a terminus at Marylebone, to Sheffield via Leicester and Nottingham. It now forms part of the Chilterns Railway between London and the Midlands. The Wycombe Railway, opened in 1863, runs through the north-eastern edge of the study area (DWH152). The line was absorbed into the Great Western Railway (GWR) in 1867 and continues in use as a commuter line linking Princes Risborough with Aylesbury and onwards to London and Birmingham. The now dismantled Wendover - Royal Air Force (RAF) Halton line is also depicted on post-World War II maps skirting the northern periphery of Wendover eastwards to Halton.

- 3.8.2 Development within the modern period has been quite small-scale within the study area and comprises predominantly limited expansion of residential and commercial development around Wendover (DWH120). Villages such as The Lee (DWH022) have expanded to the south at Lee Common, though again only on a very limited scale, over the last century. Elsewhere within the study area commercial development predominantly comprises modern structures associated with agriculture and communications. Modernisation of the A413 and Aylesbury to Marylebone Railway Line are the most notable examples of the latter.

## 4 Built heritage

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section provides baseline information relating to built heritage assets within the land required, permanently or temporarily, for construction of the Proposed Scheme, 500m study area and wider ZTV. A broad overview of the character and form of the settlement pattern within the study area can be found in Section 6 of this appendix. This section provides the following information:

- descriptions of all built heritage assets or asset groupings wholly or partially within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme. This includes descriptions of settlements where relevant;
- descriptions of all built heritage assets or asset groupings wholly or partially within 500m of the edge of the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme. This includes descriptions of settlements where relevant; and
- descriptions of selected designated assets within the ZTV.

4.1.2 Further information on all these assets, plus those other designated assets which lie within the ZTV but are not described in Section 4.4 of this appendix, can be found in the Gazetteer in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-010 . The assets are shown on Maps CH-01-031, CH-01-032, CH-01-033a, CH-01-033b, CH-01-034 and CH-01-034L1, CH-02-015 and CH-02-016 (Volume 5, Cultural Heritage Map Book).

### 4.2 Built heritage assets within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme

4.2.1 The following built heritage assets or asset groupings, both designated and non-designated, lie wholly or partially within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme. The assets are described from south to north.

#### Durham Farm (DWHo44)

4.2.2 This non-designated farm complex at the end of Bowood Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The complex is believed to be of 19th century origin. The original farmhouse is central to two barns which lie on its south-east and south-west corners enclosing on three sides a south-facing farmyard. There are a number of large modern barn additions and extensions to the east and west of the central core. All the extant farm buildings lie within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme.

4.2.3 The immediate setting of the farm complex comprises chiefly its grounds, yard, and gardens alongside Bowood Lane, a hedge-lined winding country lane. This is set within the wider agricultural and wooded landscape of the Misbourne Valley. There are open views across the valley to the south and west, and to the north. The asset group is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest and forms a group of vernacular 19th and 20th century

buildings that remain closely associated with their rural setting, which makes a contribution to their value.

### **Road Barn Farm (DWHo82)**

- 4.2.4 This non-designated farm complex on the A413 is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). In the medieval period its fields lay within the open fields of Wendover. The farm is 3km from the 16th century manor house of Chequers and in the 19th century was part of the Halton Estate of the banker Alfred de Rothschild. Survey and documentary evidence indicate that Road Barn Farm was built in response to the opportunities presented by the building of the turnpike road after 1751 and the enclosure of Wendover's medieval open fields in 1795.
- 4.2.5 The farmhouse was built by Joseph Rance in 1901 (the great-great grandfather of the present owner) and little of the structure has changed since. It was originally named Southfields Farm, presumably as an acknowledgment that the area it occupies is situated within Wendover's South Field, a common open field until its enclosure.
- 4.2.6 The farmhouse is built of red brick, is two-storied with an attic and has a symmetrical front elevation. On each side of a central open porch with gabled, tiled roof are two canted bays rising through two storeys. The roof is red tiled with end gables to the side elevations and twin external chimney stacks. There is a lean-to on the rear elevation.
- 4.2.7 The barn is timber-framed under a pitched roof of old red clay tiles. The walls are timber-clad weatherboarding above a high brick plinth. It has wide doors opening through the north-south axis. The timber-frame is of a type common in agricultural buildings through the centuries and the building, though much altered and adapted over the years, predates the main buildings. It probably dates to the 18th or 19th century. The stables abutting the barn on the west side are of brick and flint construction under a low pitched slate roof, typical of the Chilterns. There is a hay manger on the northern wall. Other farm buildings are of 20th century origin and used for garaging. The farm is surrounded by its former fields which are now farmed by others.
- 4.2.8 The current name suggests the barn may have been located on the road side prior to the farm's construction and subsequently the farm changed its name to reflect this. It is likely that the original barn was built soon after the turnpike to take advantage of passing agricultural trade. Bryant's map of Buckinghamshire (1825) indicates three buildings on the site raising the possibility of an earlier farm associated with the barn.
- 4.2.9 The immediate setting of these buildings comprises chiefly their grounds, yard, and gardens, alongside the A413, a busy communication route between London and Aylesbury. The farm's wider setting comprises the agricultural and wooded landscape of the flatter base of the valley. There are restricted views westwards due to the mature tree-lined road boundary alongside the A413. The boundary of the farm complex is also surrounded by mature trees and serves to limit views to the north, east and south. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest and forms a coherent vernacular group. It remains closely associated with its rural setting which makes a contribution to its value.

## Railway overbridge (DWH151)

- 4.2.10 This is a non-designated brick built overbridge depicted on 2nd Edition OS mapping (1898-1900) to the north of Road Barn Farm. It was constructed as part of the infrastructure for the Metropolitan Railway's, Aylesbury to Chorleywood line. The overbridge is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest. Its setting comprises associated extant historic railway infrastructure which contributes to its value.

## Numbers 30–40 Ellesborough Road (DWH096)

- 4.2.11 This asset group comprises a non-designated partial terrace and two detached buildings on the Ellesborough Road. Numbers 30-36 are the last four properties at the western end of the terrace on Ellesborough Road, with numbers 38 and 40 being larger detached houses.
- 4.2.12 Numbers 30-36 are doubled fronted terraces dating to the 1840s-1850s and are the largest properties on the terrace. The front elevation of number 36 is thought to retain much of its original design; two slightly projecting bay windows to the ground floor, a central ground floor entrance and three evenly-spaced windows to the first floor. The front elevations of numbers 32 and 34 appear to have been altered during the latter part of the 19th century and were built to a similar design. This included the enlargement of the bay windows and the construction of a porched entrance way. A tiled canopy has been built over these three additions and stained glass windows inserted either side of the door. The exterior façade has been pebble-dashed. Number 30 also has extended bay windows to the front elevation, although these appear more recent and boxier in their style to those at numbers 32 and 34. There is evidence of a former projecting porched canopy having been inserted over the front door of number 30, which can be seen on earlier photographs. Numbers 38 and 40 are of more recent construction and are not depicted on 1st or 2nd Edition OS mapping (1880s-1899). As more recent buildings they are not of heritage value.
- 4.2.13 It appears that the interiors of numbers 30 – 36 retain all the original interior layouts, which would have had a central lobby entrance with living rooms to either side. Each property has a cellar with a small passageway passing under the lobby and then opening out under the larger of the two ground floor rooms. There are three rooms on the first floor accessed by a curved staircase. Number 34 appears to retain the highest proportion of original features including original wooden doors, decorative wooden features such as cornices and partitions and wooden panelling in one of the first floor rooms. There is also evidence of the original floor tiles in the lobby entrance. All properties have had 19th and 20th century extensions to the rear resulting in a modified layout to the interior. The majority have modern plastic windows.
- 4.2.14 The asset group's immediate setting is defined by the surrounding associated gardens and landscaping and the road it is located adjacent to. It lies within a wider setting of flattish open agricultural fields to the north, north-west and south. The core of Wendover lies to the east along Ellesborough Road, crossing the A413 Nash Lee Road and the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line. Bacombe Hill lies to the west, though is not really visible due to the intervening high tree-lined hedge-banks along Ellesborough Road. The partial terrace specifically can be considered to be of some aesthetic,

historical, architectural and archaeological interest; their setting making a limited contribution to their value. Numbers 10-28 Ellesborough Road (DHW158) are discussed in Section 4.3 of this report.

## 4.3 Built heritage assets within 500m of the boundary of the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme

- 4.3.1 The following built heritage assets or asset groupings, both designated and non-designated, lie wholly or partially within 500m of the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme. The assets are described from south to north.

### Hunt's Green Farm (DWH007)

- 4.3.2 There are two Grade II listed buildings at Hunt's Green Farm. Hunt's Green Farmhouse, a 17th to 18th century farmhouse with 19th century additions and a late 18th century - early 19th century timber-framed and weatherboarded barn with brick plinths and an old tiled roof. The barn has six bays with off-centre wagon porch to the north, queen strut roof trusses and straight tie-beam braces. It lies to the north of Hunt's Green Farmhouse.
- 4.3.3 The asset group's immediate setting comprises chiefly the buildings' grounds, yards and gardens. The complex is set within a wider setting on the eastern shoulder of the Misbourne Valley as it rises towards the plateau in undulating fields, stands of woodland, isolated trees and hedgerows. King's Lane lies on the farm's eastern edge linking it with The Lee and Lee Common to the north and Leather Lane and Potter Row to the south. A track also links it with Cottage Farm and other buildings to the west. The farmhouse and barn form a group of post-medieval vernacular farm buildings that remain closely associated with their rural agricultural surroundings. Their rural, agricultural surroundings contribute to the asset's value.

### Dutchlands Farm (DWH163)

- 4.3.4 This non-designated farm complex on the west side of London Road (A413) is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The complex is likely to be of 19th century origin and is arranged around a south-west facing courtyard which is enclosed on three sides. The predominantly red brick, flint and weatherboarded complex and surrounding contemporary outbuildings have been altered during subsequent years to form a number of detached and semi-detached residences which, having retained notional links to their farming heritage are not now part of a working farm complex. These buildings comprise the following: Threshing Barn, Bluebell Barn, Oak Haven, Chestnut Tree Barn, Dove Cottage and Dutchlands Farm Cottages. The latter semi-detached building is the only one to lie on the east side of the road.
- 4.3.5 The immediate setting of this complex comprises chiefly the surrounding grounds, former farm yard and gardens. This is set within the wider agricultural landscape in the base of the Misbourne Valley. There are open views across the valley to the south and east, and to the north, though these are partially obscured by mature tree-lined roadside hedgerows, field boundaries and isolated stands of trees. The asset group is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological

interest and forms a group of vernacular 19th and 20th century buildings that remain closely associated with their rural setting, which makes a contribution to their value.

### **Cottage on King's Lane south of Hunt's Green Farm (DWH165)**

- 4.3.6 This building, a cottage and attached barn, is located on the east side of King's Lane and is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The cottage of probable 19th century date is built in red brick with a red tiled roof in the typical vernacular style, and the attached barn, weatherboarded with a slate roof. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens. It is situated high on the eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley close to the plateau and has partial views to the south and west across the valley obscured otherwise by the intervening tree-lined roadside boundaries, isolated stands of trees and hedge-lined field boundaries. There are also partial views to the north and more open views to the east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

### **Buildings at Hunt's Green (DWH166)**

- 4.3.7 There are two moderately sized cottages in the hamlet of Hunt's Green located on King's Lane, Hedgerow and Thatch Cottage, which are depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s) and are likely to be of 19th century origin. Thatch Cottage is built in red brick and roughcast render with a thatched roof whilst Hedgerow is of red brick with a slate roof; both are typical post-medieval vernacular style though the thatched roof is a little more unusual for the study area. Their immediate setting comprises their surrounding gardens and their location on King's Lane. The hamlet is situated high on the eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley close to the plateau with partial views to the south and west across the valley obscured otherwise by the intervening tree-lined roadside boundaries, isolated stands of trees and hedge-lined field boundaries. There are also partial views to the north and more open views to the east. Hedgerow has more open views to the south and west whilst Thatch Cottage has more open views to the north. The asset group is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and the rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

### **The Lee (DWH022)**

- 4.3.8 The Lee is a small but historically noteworthy settlement at the southern end of the study area located on the dip-slope of the Chilterns. The village lies within the Chiltern District and the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). It is designated as a conservation area and lies approximately 500m from the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme. This conservation area encompasses the historic core of the village. The village lies on the plateau surrounded by gently undulating countryside with views west towards the valley, the A413 and the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line. It is approximately 1.5km from the main road and is served by local lanes which link it to the A413 London Road and surrounding settlements. The Lee is set apart from Lee Common to its south-east and linked to it by Lee Clump Road.

- 4.3.9 The conservation area comprises two distinct and contrasting parts with regard to origin, physical characteristics and function. The area centred on the old church is a long-established place of worship surrounded by a working farm with farmhouse, yards, associated buildings and open fields. By contrast the area centred on the Green is primarily residential in function with the exception of the Cock and Rabbit Inn and Hawthorn Farm.
- 4.3.10 The area centred on the old church is considered worthy of its designation as a conservation area primarily on account of its historic interest, comprising the area of the medieval village with boundary earthworks evident in fields on the western edge of the village, and two notable churches within its enclosure. The 12th century Grade I listed Old Church of St John the Baptist is the primary building. The area centred on the Green is considered to reflect special qualities as an area of built environment, as reflected by its buildings, form and layout and historical relationship with the Liberty family.
- 4.3.11 The Lee was originally a chapelry to Weston Turville and was granted circa 1146 by the family of Turville to the Abbey at Missenden. Over the centuries the manor passed from family to family, including the Russells' in the 16th century; the Plaistowes' in the 17th and 18th centuries; and then passing to the Deering family who held it in the 19th century. It was sold in 1900 to the Liberty family who then became lords of the manor and principal landowners.
- 4.3.12 The earliest traces of settlement now evident are in the form of a village site; a 3ha pear-shaped enclosure defined by a ditch and earth bank. The earthworks probably date to a phase of the medieval village's development between the 13th and 14th centuries or perhaps a little earlier. The Lee earthworks are unusual for the Chilterns in that they enclose a fairly large area<sup>66</sup>.
- 4.3.13 The Lee comprises a group of 12 listed buildings, including the Grade I listed Old Church of St John the Baptist and 11 other Grade II listed buildings. The two focal points within the village, the old church area and the Village Green are both very peaceful, rural locations and form the core of its immediate setting. The surrounding private houses, cottages, Cock and Rabbit public house and a farmhouse and yard close to the church, along with the lanes and pathways make up the remainder.
- 4.3.14 The value of the village and its conservation area, and the assets within it, is considered to lie primarily within its medieval and post-medieval character and the vernacular buildings within the asset group. The area around the old church at the north-west end of the village has a very strong sense of enclosure. Predominantly evergreen trees and shrubs line the perimeter limiting external views. Rows of holly and hedges line the road and add to this sense of enclosure. Views to the north and east at the edge of the village are relatively clear across open country. Views to the west within the village are obscured by surrounding stands of trees and hedgerows, though within the fields on the western edge of the village, inside the earthwork boundary, views west towards the A413 are fairly unobstructed. The area defined by

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<sup>66</sup> Chiltern District Council, (1998).

the Green has a similar sense of enclosure, bounded as it is on all sides by houses and surrounded by tree-lined road side and garden hedges.

- 4.3.15 The village's wider setting comprises the gently undulating ground of the plateau just east of the Misbourne Valley. This is a landscape of agricultural fields, woodlands and other stands of trees, isolated farms, footpaths and bridleways and contributes to the settlement's value.

### **Aylesbury to Chorleywood Railway (DWH159)**

- 4.3.16 The Aylesbury to Chorleywood railway line is a non-designated heritage asset built by Great Central Railways in the 1880s. It is depicted on 2nd Edition OS mapping (1898-1900) as part of the Metropolitan Railway. The railway remains in service as part of the Chiltern Line. Non-designated historic elements such as railway overbridges survive at intervals along its length and these, along with associated railway infrastructure are considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and contribute to the asset's value. Its setting predominantly comprises the rural landscape of the Misbourne Valley through which it passes, though this does not contribute to its value.

### **Mayertorne Manor and Manor Farmhouse (DWHo43)**

- 4.3.17 These two Grade II listed buildings are of late 18th century origin and are located at Manor Farm between the A413 and the Aylesbury to Marylebone railway. Documentary records suggest a medieval origin for Mayertorne Manor though there is no evidence of that in its structure. Mayertorne Manor is built with red and blue vitreous bricks with red brick dressings, a slate roof with overhanging eaves, a panelled soffit and flanking chimneys. It is also associated with the almost completely removed remains of 19th century formal parklands and gardens. Manor Farmhouse is a two storey building of brick with a hipped slate roof with parapet and delicate wood bracketed cornice with end chimney stacks. The primary value of these assets is considered to lie in their character as typical post-medieval vernacular farmsteads.

- 4.3.18 The buildings' immediate setting is defined by their surrounding listed and non-listed buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping sitting in open fields on the lower western slope of the Misbourne Valley. The immediate surroundings are also notable for the fact that several farmsteads are clustered quite closely in this part of the valley floor where superficial colluvial (Head) deposits may provide more productive agricultural land in contrast to the higher valley sides and the Clay-with-Flints and chalk land of the plateau to the east and west respectively.

- 4.3.19 The agricultural land of the Misbourne Valley defines the buildings' wider setting and places them within a broadly rural, agricultural context. The A413 and Aylesbury to Marylebone railway bracket the buildings close by on the east and west sides respectively and these have an impact on the peaceful quality of the rural surroundings. There are key views towards the east across the valley bottom towards the rising ground of the eastern valley side and the plateau. Views to the east from Manor Farm and Mayertorne Manor are partially screened by mature trees and intervening hedgerows such that very little of the landscape further east than the valley bottom is visible. The setting of these assets within the agricultural landscape makes a contribution to their value.

### The Refuge, Bowood Lane (DWH164)

- 4.3.20 The Refuge on the junction of London Road (A413) and Bowood Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The moderately sized red brick and slate roofed cottage is likely to be of 19th century origin and is built in the typical vernacular style. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens and its roadside location facing the London Road (A413). This is set within the wider agricultural landscape in the base of the Misbourne Valley. There are partial views across the valley to the south and east, and to the north, though these are obscured by mature tree-lined roadside hedgerows, field boundaries and isolated stands of trees. The asset group is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest and forms a group of vernacular 19th and 20th century buildings that remain closely associated with their rural setting, which makes a contribution to their value.

### Wendover Dean Farm (DWHo45)

- 4.3.21 The four Grade II listed buildings comprise the farmhouse, two barns, which are of 18th century origin and Wendover Dean Farm Cottages of 17th century origin and formerly a single house. The farmhouse is a two-storey, three-bay building of red brick with some vitreous brick and an old tiled roof with flanking chimneys. It has a 19th century rendered wing on the right side and a long one-storey outbuilding on the left side. The barn to the south-west is timber-framed and weatherboarded on a brick plinth with an old tiled roof. The barn to the west is similar though on a flint plinth. It has a brick addition at the north end with chequer brick design to the north and west. The two cottages are timber-framed of two storeys, cased and refronted in red brick in the 18th century. The building has an old tile roof with a central brick chimney and is part rebuilt.
- 4.3.22 The immediate setting of these buildings is defined by their surrounding listed and non-listed buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping sitting on the lower eastern slope of the Misbourne Valley, close to the valley bottom. The agricultural land of the valley provides their wider setting and places these buildings within what is today a recognisably rural, agricultural context. The A413 London Road and Marylebone to Aylesbury Line sit on lower ground across open fields to the west in the valley and these have some influence on the peaceful quality of the rural surroundings. The key views from Wendover Dean Farm look west towards the valley. Views to the east are largely screened by mature trees on its boundary. Views looking east are influenced slightly by the presence of overhead electricity cables and pylons.

- 4.3.23 The value of the asset group is derived from its character as an example of a typical post-medieval vernacular farmstead. Its rural agricultural setting makes an important contribution to the value.

### Upper Wendoverdean Farm (DWHo53)

- 4.3.24 The two Grade II listed buildings at Upper Wendoverdean Farm comprise a farmhouse and barn and are both of 18th century date, though with 17th century origins. Upper Wendoverdean farmhouse is a two-storey timber-framed building refronted in red and vitreous brick in the 18th century, with an old tile roof and one brick chimney to the right of centre and another at the left hand end. The south gable and rear wall are

roughcast and the north bay has been added and has a chequer pattern brick to its front. The barn to the south-west is timber-framed and weatherboarded on a brick plinth. It has an old tiled roof and a gabled cart entry projects on the south side with outshots each side.

- 4.3.25 The immediate setting of these buildings is defined by their surrounding listed and non-listed buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping sitting on the lower eastern slope of the Misbourne Valley close to the valley floor. The agricultural land of the valley provides their wider setting and places these buildings within what is today a recognisably rural, agricultural, context. The A413 and Marylebone to Aylesbury Line sit on lower ground across open fields to the west in the valley and these have some influence on the peaceful quality of the rural surroundings. The key views from Upper Wendoverdean Farm look west towards the valley. Views to the east from the farm complex are largely open and unobstructed. These views looking east from the buildings are influenced slightly by the presence of overhead electricity cables and pylons.
- 4.3.26 The value of the asset group is derived from its character as an example of a typical post-medieval vernacular farmstead. Its rural agricultural setting makes an important contribution to the value.

### **Strawberry Hill Farm (DWH033)**

- 4.3.27 Strawberryhill Farm on King's Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The complex is believed to be of 19th century origin, representing a farmstead established at or post enclosure. The complex has been much extended in the 20th century and now occupies much of the original three-sided, west-facing courtyard and surroundings, around which the original farmhouse and barns are arranged. Its immediate setting comprises the modern and original farm buildings, yards and gardens with the wider rural agricultural landscape on the eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley.
- 4.3.28 The original complex represents a typical 19th to 20th century Chilterns farmstead that remains closely associated with its agricultural surroundings. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest and its setting contributes to this value.

### **Strawberry Hill Cottage (DWH149)**

- 4.3.29 Strawberryhill Cottage on King's Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-80s). The small white rendered cottage is believed to be of 19th century origin and is a typical vernacular cottage with a slate roof. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens. It is situated high on the flank of the Misbourne Valley close to the plateau, on the west side of the lane and has reasonably unobstructed views to the south and west across the valley, which are predominantly open though in places partially obscured by intervening tree-lined field boundaries and isolated stands of trees. There are also partial views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

### Sainfoin (DWH150)

- 4.3.30 Sainfoin on King's Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-80s). Sainfoin is a fairly large double-fronted, white rendered vernacular cottage with a slate roof, believed to be of 19th century origin. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens. It is situated high on the flank of the Misbourne Valley close to the plateau, on the west side of the lane and has reasonably unobstructed views to the south and west across the valley, which are predominantly open though in places partially obscured by intervening tree-lined field boundaries and isolated stands of trees. There are also partial views to the north and east. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

### Robertswood Cottage (DWH167)

- 4.3.31 Robertswood Cottage, a fairly large building at the junction of Chesham Lane and Hogtrough Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). It is brick-built and rendered with a slate roof in the typical post-medieval vernacular style and is likely to be of 19th century origin. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens and the woodland that forms its western boundary. It is situated high on the eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley close to the plateau and has reasonably unobstructed views to the south and south-east obscured elsewhere predominantly by woodland to the west and north and by intervening tree-lined field boundaries and other isolated stands of trees. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

### Chiltern Cottage (DWH168)

- 4.3.32 Chiltern cottage, situated on the northern side of Chesham Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). It is brick-built and rendered with a red tiled roof in the typical post-medieval vernacular style and is likely to be of 19th century origin. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens and roadside position. It is situated high on the eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley close to the plateau and has reasonably unobstructed views to the south, south-east and south-west, obscured elsewhere predominantly by woodland to the west and partially to the north by intervening tree-lined field boundaries and other isolated stands of trees. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

### The Firecrest public house (DWH070)

- 4.3.33 This is a Grade II listed building of early 19th century origin which was enlarged in the 20th century. Currently named the Firecrest and depicted with that name on modern mapping it is also known as the Halfway House and is listed as such. It is a two-storey building with a chequer pattern brick and an old tiled roof with flanking chimneys.
- 4.3.34 Its immediate setting comprises its location at the base of the Misbourne Valley on the western edge of the A413, a prominent position for passing trade. The building sits in fairly substantial gardens, half of which are given over to hardstanding for car parking. Views to the east take in the flat agricultural fields of the valley bottom, rising

up the valley side towards King's Ash Woods. This clear view is interrupted a little by a line of electricity cables and pylons oriented north-west to south-east. This forms part of the public house's wider setting along with the rising land on the west side of the valley. This is a landscape of open agricultural fields, though cut by the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line prior to reaching the higher ground at Dunsmore and the extensive ancient woodlands that dominate the high ground. The building's value is derived from its character as an example of typical post-medieval vernacular cottage architecture, although the roadside and semi-rural setting also makes a contribution.

### **Milestone on A413 London Road (DWHo71)**

- 4.3.35 This milestone is located on the verge of the A413 London Road between Wendover and Little Missenden. It stands approximately 80-90cm high, the top 37cm square with a chamfer. The top of the milestone is eroded and the inscription, incised and black painted only reads London 34, Missenden 3. The asset is a fairly common example of an 18th to 19th century milestone which retains a link with the earlier road line and has some aesthetic, architectural and historical interest.

### **Cuckoo Farm, now Rocketer Cottage and Cuckoo Farm Barn (DWHo80)**

- 4.3.36 The former Cuckoo Farm, now Rocketer Cottage and Cuckoo Farm Barn, Rocky Lane is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The complex is believed to be of 19th century origin, representing a farmstead established at or post enclosure. The complex has since been divided into private residences, probably in the 20th century and is not now a working farm. The original three-sided, west-facing courtyard and surroundings, around which the original farmhouse and barns retains much of its original layout and alignment though is not now a coherent entity. The asset's immediate setting comprises the original farm buildings, yards and gardens with the wider rural agricultural landscape on the eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley.

- 4.3.37 The original buildings represent surviving elements of a typical 19th to 20th century Chilterns farmstead that retains some association with its agricultural surroundings. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest and its setting contributes to this value.

### **Smalldean Farmhouse (DWHo83)**

- 4.3.38 This is a group of four Grade II listed farm buildings comprising the farmhouse, a granary, barn and cottage, all of 18th century origin. There is also aerial photographic evidence of possible remains of formal gardens in fields just south of the farm. The farmhouse is timber-framed with red brick dressings and was refronted in brick in the later 17th or early 18th century. It has an old tiled roof hipped into a lower gabled wing to the left side and has a large central brick chimney. The barn to the north is timber-framed with a projecting gabled wing on the south side and an old tiled roof. It is weatherboarded and rests on a brick plinth. A former barn, now a cottage, lies to the north-east. This is timber-framed and weatherboarded with an old tiled roof and a gabled loft entry to the rear wall. It rests on a brick and flint plinth. There is a granary to the north of the farmhouse, also timber-framed with a pyramidal old tiled roof.

4.3.39 The farmstead's immediate setting is defined by its surrounding listed and non-listed buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping. The buildings are set within a wider landscape of fields on the lower slope of the west side of the Misbourne Valley. The farm is linked by Small Dean Lane which leads northwards to the A413 and south-westwards to the village of Dunsmore. Westwards also, as the ground rises up the valley side quite steeply, are quite extensive woodlands, the majority of which are designated as ancient woodlands. General views from the farmstead to the north, east and south-east are well screened by mature trees surrounding the farm buildings.

4.3.40 The farmstead's value is derived from its character as a typical post-medieval vernacular group of farm buildings, although its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes contributes to the value.

### **Wellhead Farm (DWH169)**

4.3.41 Wellhead Farm on Hale Road is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). The complex is likely to be of 19th century origin, representing a farmstead established at or post enclosure. The original three-sided, south-west-facing courtyard, around which the original farmhouse and barns were arranged, has been infilled by additional 20th century outbuildings and further modern structures also extend to the east. Its immediate setting comprises the modern and original farm buildings, yards and gardens with the wider rural agricultural landscape on the eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley.

The original complex represents a typical 19th to 20th century Chilterns farmstead that remains closely associated with its agricultural surroundings. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest and its setting contributes to this value.

### **Wellhead Cottage (DWH170)**

4.3.42 Wellhead Cottage, situated on the junction of Hogtrough Lane and Hale Road is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). It is a moderately sized brick-built and rendered cottage with a red tiled roof in the typical post-medieval vernacular style and is likely to be of 19th century origin, though altered and extended in the 20th century. The cottage's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens, its roadside position and the buildings of Wellhead Farm. It sits within the wooded apex formed by the junction of Hale Road and Hogtrough Lane at the base of the Misbourne Valley. The building is situated approximately 250m north-east of an elevated roundabout on the A413, traffic on which can be heard clearly. A line of mature deciduous trees and hedgerows along Hale Road which runs northwards to Wendover and southwards to the A413 completely screens views west from Wellhead Farm during the summer months. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape situated at the junction of Hale Road and Hogtrough Lane also makes a contribution to this value. Traffic along the A413 can be heard and detracts from this rural setting though does not affect the ability to appreciate the asset.

## **Numbers 10-28 Ellesborough Road (DWH158)**

- 4.3.43 Numbers 10-28 Ellesborough Road are depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s - 1880s). The terrace can be divided into four groups on the basis of style and date. Of those, numbers 10–12 are a group of what were originally three small 19th century cottage style terrace houses. The first property now comprises two of the original properties converted into one. They have a simple design; each having three openings to the front elevation comprising a doorway with projecting canopy to one side and a casement window on the ground and first floor. The positioning of the door and windows is dependent on the location of the cottage within the terrace. Currently the cottages have a pebble dashed exterior though it is thought they once would have had exposed brickwork. Numbers 14–20 are a group of four terrace houses similar in their design to Nos 10-12 with a simple doorway to one bay and a casement window on each floor to the other. The position of the doors and windows again appears dependent on their respective location within the terrace. This group has exposed brickwork to the exterior and the addition of decorative brick headers above the openings on the ground floor. Numbers 26 and 28 are a pair of mid-late 19th century semi-detached properties, slightly larger in size than the terraced houses on the eastern side. Number 26 is thought to exhibit the most likely original front elevation; an offset central doorway under a projecting porch, a bay window to one side and small casement windows to the other. There are two further casement windows to the first floor. Number 28 exhibits a re-sited doorway to the west side of the smaller ground floor window; the original opening has been bricked up. The properties have exposed brickwork to the exterior, with decorative brick detail surrounding the original windows. The whole terrace is slate-roofed with either two or three chimney stacks shared by adjacent dwellings.

- 4.3.44 The asset group's immediate setting is defined by the surrounding associated gardens and landscaping and the road it is located adjacent to. It lies within a wider setting of flattish open agricultural fields to the north, north-west and south. The core of Wendover lies to the east along Ellesborough Road, crossing the A413 Nash Lee Road and the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line. Bacombe Hill lies to the west, though is not really visible due to the intervening high tree-lined hedge-banks along Ellesborough Road. The partial terrace specifically can be considered to be of some aesthetic, historical, architectural and archaeological interest; their setting making a limited contribution to their value. Number 30-40 Ellesborough Road (DHW096) are discussed in Section 4.2 of this report.

## **Wellwick Farm (DWH109)**

- 4.3.45 Three listed buildings are located at Wellwick Farm. These comprise the Grade II\* listed Wellwick Manor built in 1616 and altered later in the 17th and 18th centuries and two Grade II listed 18th century barns, one to the west of Wellwick Manor and one to the north-west. These are substantial rural farm buildings of early post-medieval date.
- 4.3.46 Wellwick Manor is a rubble flint building with stone dressings, with brick facing and chimneys. The main south front is refaced in 18th century brick concealing the original 'E'-plan. It has an old tiled roof, parapets, stone-coped to the gables with finials. There are flanking brick chimneys with two left-hand and four right-hand octagonal brick

shafts on square brick bases. There is a stone panel with carved arms of the Brudenell family above the ledged central door. The rear elevation has three gables, the central one broken by a massive brick chimney with three octagonal shafts similar to the others and has a terracotta plaque which reads AW 1616. There is a one-storey range of outhouses attached to the north-west corner. Both barns to the north-west of the manor are timber-framed on brick plinths with early brick infilling to the eastern elevation, weatherboarding and old tiled roofs.

- 4.3.47 The immediate setting of this group of buildings comprises their surrounding listed and non-listed buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping. They are set amongst relatively large, flat open agricultural fields with hedgerows and deciduous trees flanking the entrance lane and the northern and western sides of Wellwick Manor.
- 4.3.48 The surrounding flat-lying agricultural land of the Icknield Belt in the wider vicinity also forms part of the wider setting. This includes Ellesborough Golf Course to the south-west which is skirted by Wendover Road. Baccombe Hill lies on the southern side of Wendover Road. Chalkshire Road lies to the west and B4009 Nash Lee Road to the north, with the other roads enclosing the farm and surrounding fields. The farmstead is located in a broadly rural, agricultural context, though lies close to Wendover, separated from it by the A413 Nash Lee Road and the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line. Although in a rural and agricultural setting, the farmstead's location relatively close to these communication routes impinges slightly on the rural quality of the setting.
- 4.3.49 The asset's value is derived from its character as a fine example of an early post-medieval vernacular farmstead, its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to this value. The slight impingement of background traffic noise along the A413 and railway does not affect the contribution of this rural setting to the value of the asset group.
- Wendover: introduction (DWH117, DWH120)**
- 4.3.50 The whole of the Wendover's historic core and its southern periphery is designated as a conservation area. For the purposes of this assessment this has been divided into the southern periphery south of Chapel Lane (DWH117) and the historic core (DWH120) since there are different considerations in terms of the town's historical development.
- 4.3.51 Wendover lies within the Aylesbury Vale District and the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is situated in a prime position at a natural crossing point between two large hills on the Chiltern Ridge. The Chiltern Ridge wraps around the south-east, south and south-west of the town. To the north the land slopes gently downward to the flat, agricultural land of the Vale of Aylesbury. The hills to the south are easily visible from within the town, making a significant contribution to the conservation area as a whole and forming an important element in the character of its setting.
- 4.3.52 Wendover is a compact market town which occupies a valley bottom position close to fresh water sources. The watercourses flowing through the town form part of a network of feeder streams for the Wendover arm of the Grand Union Canal. The road layout has survived broadly intact through time and the linear form of the town is still clearly identifiable. The commercial centre follows South Street, High Street and

Aylesbury Road. They form a loose Z-shaped layout and comprise one of the principal routes between London and Aylesbury. There is some evidence that this road layout was part of deliberate medieval planning and probably dates to the 13th century when the borough was established.

### **Wendover southern focus (DWH117)**

- 4.3.53 The western boundary of this part of Wendover is defined by the limits of the Wendover Conservation Area. The whole of the southern part of Wendover lies within the conservation area and has been identified by Buckinghamshire County Council as an archaeological notification area defined in a rather tightly focussed area around the former site of the medieval Wendover Manor.
- 4.3.54 Within this area there is a small group of five listed buildings comprising the Parish Church of St Mary, its lychgate and churchyard wall, both Grade II\* listed and, Wendover House School, its stable block and the wall to the kitchen garden which are each Grade II listed. The Parish Church of St Mary has a 14th century origin and was restored in 1839 and in 1869. The lychgate and boundary wall is dated to 1871 and was possibly built by G.E. Street.
- 4.3.55 The principal influence on the value of these buildings is their character; the church particularly is a long-standing historic focal point of medieval origin, whilst the lychgate and boundary wall are 19th century addition to the group of particular architectural note. Collectively, along with the vernacular buildings associated with Wendover House School they comprise an integral element of the settlement's former medieval focus on the southern edge of Wendover. This probably reflects the earliest origins of the settlement. This area is more enclosed, less urban and is screened and sheltered by numerous mature trees giving it a rural, village-like sense, discrete from the rest of the settlement.
- 4.3.56 On its south-western edge, however, the A413 and Aylesbury to Marylebone railway provide a clear separation between the group of buildings and their surroundings and the more open farmland to the west in the valley bottom. The most important views in the town are the long reaching views of the Chilterns to the south, east and west of the town. The views of the hills to the south and east over the tops of buildings and between them retain the clear visual link between the town and the surrounding countryside. Views of the nearer landscape to the west and south-west are somewhat restricted by topography and intervening lines of trees and the streetscape along Chapel Lane, South Street, Church Lane and London Road.
- 4.3.57 To the west and south-west the valley in the wider vicinity does contribute to the wider setting of the asset group, though to a lesser extent because of the intervening communication routes. The rural and agricultural landscape to the east which rises to the plateau and Boddington Wood, and the eastern edge of the valley looking towards the south, provide the more significant views. Views from the end of Hale Road, across fields to the south-east and from Wendover House School across the A413 to the south-west are considered important links to the agricultural land that surrounds the town. This wider setting contributes to the value of the group.

## **Wendover historic core (DWH120)**

- 4.3.58 The western boundary of this part of Wendover is defined by the limits of the Wendover Conservation Area. Within the historic core of the town and contained within the conservation area a large number of historic buildings survive, especially along Aylesbury Road, Pound Street, South Street and around the market square which is known as the Manor Waste.
- 4.3.59 The historic core of Wendover includes 89 listed buildings, two of which are Grade II\* listed with the remaining 87 Grade II listed. The Grade II\* listed Red House on the Aylesbury Road is an early 18th century building that incorporates elements of 17th century origin. The other, Bank Farmhouse on Tring Road, on the eastern edge of the town centre has origins in the 15th century with alterations and additions dating through the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- 4.3.60 The core of Wendover encompasses all of these listed buildings with the exception of four outlying examples. Buckinghamshire County Council has identified the core of the town as an archaeological notification area to reflect the medieval focus of Wendover.
- 4.3.61 The value of the historic core of the town, of the conservation area, and the assets within it, is considered to lie primarily within their predominantly post-medieval vernacular architecture set along South Street, High Street and Aylesbury Road. These essentially define the immediate setting of the town. The wider setting comprises Wendover's historically important position on the valley bottom and at the natural crossing point between two large hills on the Chiltern Ridge, Boddington Hill and Baccombe Hill. The A413 and the Aylesbury to Marylebone railway on the western edge of the town form a definite boundary past which little of the landscape is visible. The High Street crosses over these to become the Ellesborough Road continuing westwards out of town.
- 4.3.62 The most important views in the town are the long reaching views of the Chilterns to the south, east and west of the town. The views of the hills to the south and east over the tops of buildings and between them retain the clear visual link between the town and the surrounding countryside. Views of the nearer landscape to the west are restricted by topography and intervening lines of trees and the streetscape along the High Street and Pound Street. This wider setting contributes to the value of the asset group.

## **Old Mill House (DWH118)**

- 4.3.63 This Grade II listed building is located on the north side of buildings at Wellhead Farm just south of Wendover. It was formerly a water mill which ceased productive working in 1923. Documentary sources suggest there is some potential close to this asset for buried archaeological remains associated with two former fulling mills called Poyntz Mills. These were mills associated with the cloth-making process.
- 4.3.64 The immediate setting of Old Mill House is its roadside location on Hogtrough Lane and the buildings of Wellhead Farm. It sits within a wooded apex formed by the junction of Hale Road and Hogtrough Lane at the base of the Misbourne Valley. The building is situated approximately 250m north-east of an elevated roundabout on the

A413, traffic on which can be heard clearly. A line of mature deciduous trees and hedgerows along Hale Road which runs northwards to Wendover and southwards to the A413 completely screens views west from Wellhead Farm during the summer months. Key views from Old Mill House are generally north toward Wendover and north-east towards Boddington Hill. The surrounding agricultural land along the eastern side of the valley below Boddington Hill to the east and south-east form part of the building's wider setting and comprise a recognisably rural, agricultural, context.

- 4.3.65 The asset's value is predominantly derived from its character as a typical cottage in the post-medieval vernacular style, although its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape situated at the junction of Hale Road and Hogtrough Lane also makes a contribution to this value. Traffic along the A413 can be heard and detracts from this rural setting though does not affect the ability to appreciate the asset.

### **The Coach House, Nashlee Farm (DWH171)**

- 4.3.66 The Coach House at Nashlee Farm comprises a building arranged around a courtyard which is open on its north-west-facing side. It comprises a quite substantial building on the north side of Nash Lee Road, which is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s) and which has only been slightly extended since. It is predominantly of brick and timber-clad weatherboard construction with red tiled roofing. The asset's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens, its roadside position and the Grade II listed Nashlee Farmhouse (DWH147) on its northern side. It is situated on the low-lying land of the Vale of Aylesbury as it falls away to the north from the edge of Bacombe Hill and is close to the crossroads formed by Nash Lee Road and Risborough Road. It is set within a landscape of open fields delineated by hedgerows and occasional stands of trees. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and represents a vernacular post-medieval building which may originally have been part of Nashlee Farm. Its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to its value.

### **The Gables (DWH172)**

- 4.3.67 The Gables, a large building on the south side of Nash Lee Road is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). It is brick-built with a red tiled roof in the typical post-medieval vernacular style and is likely to be of 19th century origin. The asset's immediate setting comprises its surrounding gardens, its roadside position and the Grade II listed Nashlee Farmhouse (DWH147) on its northern side. It is situated on the low-lying land of the Vale of Aylesbury as it falls away to the north from the edge of Bacombe Hill and is close to the crossroads formed by Nash Lee Road and Risborough Road. It is set within a landscape of open fields delineated by hedgerows and occasional stands of trees with relatively open views to the south and west. Views to the east are partial, obscured somewhat by an intervening tree-lined minor watercourse and the buildings of the Chiltern Brewery. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and represents a vernacular post-medieval building. Its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to its value.

## **Buildings at Terrick (DWH173)**

- 4.3.68 The hamlet of Terrick, formerly Terwick, is of Early Medieval origin. There are several buildings located close to the roundabout linking the Nash Lee Road, Chalkshire Road and Risborough Road around which the hamlet is focussed, which are depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-80s). These comprise an un-named red brick and flint building with a slate roof facing the roundabout on its eastern side, Terrick Row, a brick-built terrace of eight houses with part slate and part tile roofing on Nash Lee Road, and 120 Chalkshire Road a brick-built house with timber weatherboarding. These buildings are all typical post-medieval vernacular examples and are likely to be of 19th century origin. Their immediate setting comprises their surrounding gardens and their roadside location. The hamlet is situated on the low-lying agricultural land of the Vale of Aylesbury with quite open views of the surrounding landscape, albeit partially obscured by intervening tree-lined roadside boundaries, isolated stands of trees and hedge-lined field boundaries. The asset group is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and the rural setting makes a contribution to its value.

## **Apsley Manor Farm (DWH146)**

- 4.3.69 There are two Grade II listed buildings at Apsley Manor Farm. Apsley Manor is an early 16th century house though much altered. It is a two storey timber-framed building with brick infill partly renewed in the 20th century. The main wing was originally jettied to the front but underbuilt in brick in the late 18th to 19th centuries. The rear is partly roughcast with a lower cross wing to the right. This was also rebuilt in brick with whitewashed roughcast to the upper storey of the front gable. There are brick extensions to the rear. The building has old tiled roofs and a rebuilt chimney of thin brick between the left bays. It is on a 'T'-plan with a small staircase extension in the rear angle. The left bay of the main wing was added in the 17th century. There is also an early-mid 19th century barn which is timber-framed and weatherboarded and also has an old tiled roof.
- 4.3.70 Apsley Manor Farm's immediate setting is defined by its surrounding buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping. It lies partially within the medieval scheduled monument moated site with which it is grouped and this is a key element of its setting. The asset group is situated on a north-west facing slope descending to the low-lying land of the Vale of Aylesbury. There are numerous farmsteads close by and the hamlets of Little Kimble to the south, North Lee just to the east and Marsh to the north-west. These are all set within a landscape of open fields delineated by hedgerows and occasional stands of trees. There is also noticeably less woodland cover in the flatter landscape of the vale.
- 4.3.71 The asset group's value is derived from its character as an early post-medieval vernacular farmstead, though much altered subsequently. Its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape along with its historical association with the moated site also makes an important contribution to its value.

## **Nashlee Farmhouse (DWH147)**

- 4.3.72 The farmhouse is a Grade II listed early 18th century farmhouse with early 19th century alterations. It is a two storey building of red and vitreous brick to the ground

floor with early 19th century brick above, later extensions to the rear and with an old tiled roof. There is a fine central chimney of 18th century brick with four grouped shafts.

- 4.3.73 The farmhouse's immediate setting is defined by the surrounding buildings, associated yards, gardens and landscaping of Nashlee Farm. There is also a former medieval moated site adjacent in its grounds which was subsequently re-used as a watercress bed. There was also an arbour on the island. It is situated on the low-lying land of the Vale of Aylesbury as it falls away to the north from the edge of Bacombe Hill and is close to the crossroads formed by Nash Lee Road and Risborough Road. There are a number of farmsteads close by and the hamlets of Terrick a little to the south and North Lee just to the north-west. The A413 and the Aylesbury to Marylebone Railway are situated approximately 1km to the east. These are all set within a landscape of open fields delineated by hedgerows and occasional stands of trees. There is noticeably less woodland cover in the flatter landscape of the vale.

- 4.3.74 The asset's value is derived from its character as a typical vernacular post-medieval farmstead. Its setting within the wider rural and agricultural landscape makes a contribution to this value.

### **Dodd's Farm (DWH141)**

- 4.3.75 Dodd's Farm is accessed via a track off North Lee Lane and is situated on the west side of the former Wycombe Railway line which serves now as a Chiltern Railways commuter line linking Princes Risborough with Aylesbury. The farmstead is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-80s). A brief visual assessment of the main farmhouse and barns indicates a 19th century origin. It is arranged around a three-sided west-facing courtyard which retains much of its original integrity. New structures are concentrated on the eastern side of the complex away from the courtyard. The farm's immediate setting comprises the modern and former farm buildings, yards and gardens within the wider rural, agricultural landscape. It is situated in a wider agricultural landscape of flat open fields divided by low hedgerows in which there are isolated mature trees. These only partially screen extensive and long views in all directions.

- 4.3.76 The existing farm buildings represent a typical Chilterns farmstead established at or post enclosure in the vernacular style. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and remains closely associated with its agricultural surroundings which contribute to its value.

### **North Lee Farm (DWH144)**

- 4.3.77 North Lee Farm is situated on North Lee Lane and is depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-80s). The main farmhouse is a brick-built and part-rendered building of probable later 19th century origin. It is arranged around a three-sided north-west facing courtyard which retains only a little of its original integrity. New outbuildings and barns are concentrated on the north and east sides of the complex retaining the courtyard layout, but are of more recent addition. The farm's immediate setting comprises the modern and former farm buildings, yards and gardens. It is situated in a wider agricultural landscape of flat open fields divided by low hedgerows in which

there are isolated mature trees. These only partially screen extensive and long views in all directions.

- 4.3.78 The existing farm buildings represent a typical Chilterns farmstead established at or post-enclosure in the vernacular style. The asset is considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and remains closely associated with its agricultural surroundings which contribute to its value.

### **Wycombe Railway (DWH152)**

- 4.3.79 The former Wycombe Railway was opened in 1863 and passes through the north-eastern edge of the study area. The line was absorbed into the Great Western Railway (GWR) in 1867 and continues in use as a commuter line linking Princes Risborough with Aylesbury and onwards to London and Birmingham.
- 4.3.80 Non-designated historic elements such as railway overbridges survive at intervals along its length and these, along with associated railway infrastructure are considered to be of some aesthetic, historical and architectural interest and contribute to the asset's value. Its setting predominantly comprises the flat open agricultural landscape of the Aylesbury Vale through which it passes though this does not contribute to its value.

## **4.4 Selected designated built heritage assets within the ZTV**

- 4.4.1 The criterion for inclusion within this section is that the Proposed Scheme is assessed in the impact assessment table in Volume 5: Appendix CH-003-010 as having a major or moderate adverse effect upon a designated asset which lies within the ZTV, but outside the 500m study area. Descriptions and considerations of the significance of all designated assets within the ZTV can be found in the Gazetteer in Volume 5: Appendix CH-002-010.
- 4.4.2 There are no designated heritage assets within the study area which are located within the ZTV, but outside of the 500m study, that are deemed to have a major or moderate adverse effect as a result of the Proposed Scheme.

## 5 Historic map regression

- 5.1.1 The analysis of the cartographic evidence for the study area has been integrated within the archaeological and historical baseline narrative (Sections 3 and 4 of this report).

## 6 Historic landscape

- 6.1.1 The settlement character within the study area is one of dispersed settlements comprising farmsteads and small hamlets with small enclosures adjacent to the principal valleys set within a heavily-wooded landscape, much of which is ancient beech woodland.
- 6.1.2 Much of the study area lies within the Chilterns AONB. Only the very northern end of the area, north of Nash Lee Road and the urban element of Wendover lie outside it. The AONB is based on the chalk escarpment to the north-west of Greater London with the steep scarp face overlooking the Vale of Aylesbury to the north-west and the more gently sloping dip-slope progressively decreasing in height south-east towards Greater London.
- 6.1.3 The study area lies on the dip-slope of the Chilterns and flanks the valley of the River Misbourne which drains eastward to the River Colne and thence to the River Thames. The northern part of the area as it reaches Wendover straddles the Chiltern Scarp and the edge of the Icknield Belt. Beyond Wendover and Baccombe Hill the study area descends toward the good agricultural landscape of the Vale of Aylesbury.
- 6.1.4 The Proposed Scheme will pass through the Chiltern, Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe districts. Within the study area the historic landscape character is an essentially ancient rural landscape of fields and woodlands which have been strongly influenced and affected by development in the 20th century. The only rural settlement of any size within the study area is the village of Lee Common and to its north The Lee. Further north the landscape of Aylesbury Vale District is predominantly agricultural, primarily formed by private and parliamentary enclosure during the post-medieval period. Urban settlement (albeit a small market town) is represented by Wendover, with the village of Dunsmore 2km to its south-west the next most populated settlement. Wycombe District has an ancient landscape akin to the Chiltern District but with less 20th century change away from the main towns. North of the Chiltern Scarp there is a planned landscape similar to that of Aylesbury Vale District.
- 6.1.5 In Wycombe and Chiltern districts the settlement pattern is a combination of nucleated and dispersed forms with dispersed settlement tending to be located on higher ground taking the form of common edge settlements and widely distributed farmsteads. Historic nucleated villages, represented in these districts by The Lee, Lee Common and Dunsmore are examples of this type of distribution. Aylesbury Vale District has the smallest proportion of modern development and settlements tend to be relatively small-scale and nucleated; Wendover is the only example of any size at all.
- 6.1.6 The Chilterns AONB is one of the most heavily wooded parts of the United Kingdom (UK). It supports the most extensive area of native beech woodland in England and contains many protected woodlands. Woodlands comprise a significant proportion of the historic landscape in the study area and much of this is designated as ancient semi-natural or replanted woodland. Ancient semi-natural woodlands are considered especially significant for, amongst other things, their cultural heritage value as they reflect centuries of interaction between human activities and the environment.

Wycombe District has the highest proportion of ancient and secondary woodland in the study area, and indeed in Buckinghamshire as a whole. Woodlands also comprise a significant proportion of the historic landscape in Chiltern District, but far less so within the parts of the study area which lie within Aylesbury Vale District. Within the ZTV there are 18 designated ancient woodlands. Of these woodlands only Jones' Hill Wood (DWH030) lies within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme.

- 6.1.7 The agricultural landscape in Aylesbury Vale District is primarily formed by private and parliamentary enclosure during the post-medieval period. Within this post-medieval framework, aspects of the pre-existing medieval landscape survive, principally in poorly surviving ridge and furrow earthwork remains indicating areas in which an open field system existed during the medieval period (DWH125, DWH143, DWH145 and DWH153). Elsewhere there are numerous examples of ploughed-out former ridge and furrow throughout the study area (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010). These former field systems were associated with Wendover (DWH117, DWH120) and smaller settlements with moated sites such as at Nash Lee (DWH132), Terrick (DWH134), Grove Farm (DWH140), or North Lee (DWH144).
- 6.1.8 Chiltern District has an extensive area of co-axial field systems which may have pre-medieval origins and which are found mainly north and east of Chesham to the south. No other examples of these potentially early field systems lie within the study area.
- 6.1.9 The Proposed Scheme will pass through a landscape of irregular fields of medieval and post-medieval date from the south moving northwards into a landscape of later field systems formed by private and parliamentary enclosure in the post-medieval period.
- 6.1.10 The majority of buildings within the study area are of post-medieval and modern date. They predominantly date from the 17th century onwards and are focussed within the settlements of Wendover (DWH117, DWH120) and to a far lesser extent The Lee (DWH022), Hunt's Green (DWH166) and Terrick (DWH173). Many of the farmhouses and associated agricultural buildings in the study area are representative of a wider picture of dispersed and isolated farmsteads in the Chilterns as a whole. These were for the most part also built between the 17th and 19th centuries.
- 6.1.11 Within the study area eight farms or former farms are depicted on 1st Edition OS mapping (1870s-1880s). These comprise Dutchlands Farm off the A413 London Road (DWH163), Strawberry Hill Farm north-east of Jones' Hill Wood (DWH033), Cuckoo Farm, now Rocketer Cottage and Cuckoo Farm Barn, west of Kingsash (DWH080), Durham Farm at the end of Bowood Lane (DWH044), Road Barn Farm east of Coxgrove Wood, on the A413 (DWH082), Wellhead Farm on Hale Road (DWH169), Dodd's Farm (DWH141) and North Lee Farm at North Lee (DWH144). In addition there is a terrace of houses along with several detached houses, on Ellesborough Road (DWH096, DWH158) and elsewhere in the study area a number of isolated cottages and larger houses.
- 6.1.12 Overall the historic landscape character within the study area comprises pockets of surviving remnant medieval and post-medieval intermixed in a more widespread landscape of private and parliamentary enclosure. There is a well-preserved mosaic of

ancient semi-natural and replanted woodlands, especially in the southern half of the study area, which in some examples may have medieval origins.

### **Pre-18th century irregular enclosure on the flank on the Misbourne Valley (DWH156)**

- 6.1.13 Several coherent elements of pre-18th century irregular enclosure lie on the upper eastern flank of the Misbourne Valley toward the southern end of the study area around Hunt's Green (DWH007) and The Lee (DWH022). This component of Buckinghamshire's historic landscape comprises predominantly irregular enclosure of medieval or early post-medieval date and is extensive in the Chiltern District. This is less the case in the Aylesbury Vale District where the dominant characteristic is regular surveyed fields formed as a result of the Parliamentary Enclosure Acts of the 18th and 19th centuries. The identified landscape component includes an element of irregularly-shaped assarted enclosure which may well have been enclosed and cleared of woodland for the purposes of farming at the same time as surrounding land enclosures were occurring. It is quite possible that many elements of the historic landscape identified pre-18th century irregular enclosures could in fact have originated as assarts. There are no clear dates for the initial creation of most of the assarted enclosures but they are thought to have originated mostly in the medieval period, particularly in the 12th and 13th centuries when there was so called land hunger in England where the growth in population led to greater demand for arable land<sup>67</sup>. Although undertaken by most communities particular practitioners of assarting in the Chilterns were monastic establishments such as Missenden Abbey.
- 6.1.14 These elements of pre-18th century enclosure are likely to represent the expanding agricultural hinterland of medieval and post-medieval settlements such as The Lee (DWH022) and outlying hamlets and farmsteads. Examples of such enclosure appear to have been established by agreement with other landowners on a piecemeal, field-by-field basis. These examples of irregular enclosures are likely to be of medieval origin, though where they overlie medieval ridge and furrow were probably created between the 14th and 17th centuries, either by enforced clearance of the open fields or by agreement<sup>68</sup>. A recent remote sensing survey shows some evidence of former ridge and furrow, now ploughed out, which may indicate that some if not all of these elements of irregular enclosure may be of slightly later date (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010; J24, J26).
- 6.1.15 This landscape component has reasonably robust historical coherence and legibility and as such contributes to the value of settlements such as The Lee which already have a surviving medieval character. It also sets other of the smaller, more ill-defined hamlets such as Hunt's Green, Wendover Dean and Kingsash in a similarly defined historic landscape. It contributes to an understanding of how the agricultural hinterland on the valley flanks was managed during the medieval period and into the post-medieval period.

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<sup>67</sup> Green, D., (2009), *The Changing Landscape of the Chilterns: Chilterns Historic Landscape Characterisation Project*, The Chilterns Conservation Board.

<sup>68</sup> Buckinghamshire County Council, (2006), *Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Historic Landscape Characterisation*. County Archaeological Service.

## 6.2 Historic parks and gardens

- 6.2.1 Within the study area there are no surviving examples of large estates with designed parks and gardens. However, non-designated elements survive on very small scale at Wendover House School (DWH117) and are recorded on aerial photographs and map evidence indicate likely former gardens at Smalldean Farmhouse (DWH083) and a 19th century formal garden and parkland at Mayertorne Manor (DWH043).

## 6.3 Historically important hedgerows

- 6.3.1 Nineteen hedgerows within the study area are considered to be important under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 Criteria for Archaeology and History<sup>69</sup>. Of these 16 lie within, or extend into the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme.

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<sup>69</sup> Hedgerow Regulations, (1997), Statutory Instrument 1997 No. 1160.

## 7 Archaeological character

### 7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 To determine the archaeological potential for the study area it was sub-divided into archaeological character areas. These archaeological character areas are derived from a consideration of the current topography, geology and current land use of the area. From these factors the potential for recovery of archaeological remains are considered.
- 7.1.2 From these broad character areas the landscape was further subdivided into archaeological sub-zones (ASZ) which have allowed for a more in-depth understanding of the archaeological potential of the study area. The study area for this CFA has been sub-divided into 27 ASZ.
- 7.1.3 Although initially defined and characterised by current land use, a number of additional factors have determined the potential of these sub-zones to contain archaeological remains of significance. These factors include topography, geology, historic character and distribution of known archaeological finds, sites and assets.

### 7.2 Character areas

- 7.2.1 The archaeological character areas described below extend from south to north within the study area.

#### Archaeological character area 1 Misbourne Valley

- 7.2.2 The southern part of the study area comprises chalk geology with extensive Clay-with-Flints strata on the upper eastern valley shoulder and the plateau. These superficial deposits lie only in the south-east of the study area around Hunt's Green Farm and as far northwards as Kingash and Great Widmoor Wood. There are colluvial (Head) deposits in the valley bottom throughout the southern half of the study area. Overlying these are alluvial sand and gravel deposits as far north as Road Barn Farm. These predominantly lie to the west of the Proposed Scheme until the route crosses them in the vicinity of Road Barn Farm.
- 7.2.3 The area is defined by a relatively dispersed settlement pattern made up of isolated farmsteads and hamlets within areas of pre-18th century enclosure (DWH156); areas of common and quite extensive woodland on the valley flank and plateau and more recent enclosure. Some enclosures may be remnant medieval assarts. The Lee is the only settlement of any size in this part of the study area, located within gently undulating hills on the eastern slope. Many existing lanes in the area may have historic or even prehistoric origins. A prehistoric origin is also possible for examples of co-axial enclosures. The Chilterns historic landscape character has been well analysed and discussed in detail by Buckinghamshire County Council and the Chilterns Conservation Board<sup>70, 71</sup>.

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<sup>70</sup> Buckinghamshire County Council, (2006), *Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Historic Landscape Characterisation*. County Archaeological Service.

- 7.2.4 The Proposed Scheme will follow the mid to upper slope on the east side of the valley, before descending into and through the valley as it approaches the southern outskirts of Wendover. Prehistoric to medieval archaeological remains are likely to survive on the south-west facing slope of the valley in this character area. The valley floor is likely to hold greater potential, however, for the location of potential remains of agricultural practices and possibly of rural settlement remains. The Iron Age earthwork of Grim's Ditch survives in sections as an earthwork at the southern end of the study area and also to the north-east where it passes through Great Widmoor Woods.
- 7.2.5 To date there have been poor results from historical analysis of aerial photography due to in part to the quite extensive woodland cover. Recent remote survey work (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010) within the study area has, however, indicated fairly widespread areas of predominantly ploughed out ridge and furrow of probable medieval date, along with far fewer examples of poorly surviving, degraded earthwork remains, mainly to the north. There are also quite extensively distributed examples of former medieval or post-medieval field boundary earthworks, also predominantly very degraded, and areas of probable post-medieval quarrying. In addition, very little formal intrusive archaeological investigations have been undertaken, though quite extensive areas have been subject to fieldwalking and occasional metal detector surveys and demonstrate character and potential.
- 7.2.6 Very limited Palaeolithic through to Mesolithic potential is recognised from areas with colluvial (Head) deposits and on the Clay-with-Flints strata, and where such remains are found they are likely to be represented by stray finds. There are likely to be remains of later prehistoric to medieval date within the valley and on the upper slopes (especially on the eastern and north-eastern side of the valley). Within the wider region Romano-British villa estates and potentially associated industries may survive every 2-3 km, though to date conclusive evidence is lacking.

### **Archaeological character area 2 Chiltern Scarp**

- 7.2.7 Moving out of the Misbourne Valley the Proposed Scheme will pass onto the Chiltern Scarp, an area of chalk geology with some head deposits and alluvium in the valley at its southern extreme. Baccombe Hill lies on the western edge of Wendover and linked to Coombe Hill, on its western edge, together form the dominant topographic features of this ACA and mark its boundary as it falls to the lower lying landscape of the Vale of Aylesbury.
- 7.2.8 The scarp is heavily wooded, much of it ancient woodland. Settlement in the area is predominantly dispersed outside the valley on the hill slopes. Wendover occupies a choke point where the River Misbourne formerly cut a broad, flattish gorge (before capture into its present course) into the Vale of Aylesbury to the north and west. Wendover, the principal settlement within this ACA and the study area as a whole, is situated at the point on the Chiltern Scarp where the Misbourne Valley leaves the Chiltern Hills and meets the lowlands of the Icknield Belt. Smaller settlements comprise Dunsmore and Ellesborough, both set within gently undulating chalk hills.

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<sup>71</sup> Buckinghamshire County Council, The Chilterns Conservation Board & English Heritage, (2010), *Chilterns Historic Landscape Characterisation Project: The Making of the Chiltern Landscape*.

- 7.2.9 Known prehistoric sites comprise a scheduled monument hillfort at Boddington Hill and scheduled monument Bronze Age barrows on Baccombe Hill. Other hillforts and barrows are known on the scarp land elsewhere outside the study area. Many routeways onto the Chilterns and on the adjacent dip-slope have medieval or earlier origins. Investigations at Aston Clinton bypass, outside the study area suggest that the Lower Icknield Way may be an example of one such routeway with a medieval origin, though a Roman period origin cannot be ruled out<sup>72</sup>. Both Wendover and The Lee have at least medieval origins, though subsequent development may mask early medieval origins.
- 7.2.10 The Proposed Scheme will pass into the valley just south of Wendover where the Chiltern dip-slope becomes scarp land descending onto the Icknield/Greensand belt. Very little formal intrusive investigations have to date been undertaken but extensive areas have been fieldwalked and demonstrate potential for settlement and associated agricultural activity from at least the later prehistoric period. Landscape character has been well analysed and discussed in detail by Buckinghamshire County Council and the Chilterns Conservation Board<sup>73, 74</sup>.
- 7.2.11 In terms of archaeological potential there is a very limited potential for unstratified finds of Palaeolithic date; slightly more so for lithics of later prehistoric date and for ceramics of Iron Age date. The proximity of large scale Bronze Age ceremonial monuments and of Iron Age hillforts in this landscape suggests it was a focus of activity, if not certainly of settlement. Settlement and agricultural activity dating from the Roman period through into the post-medieval period is concentrated on the lower ground of the valley south of Wendover.

### **Archaeological character area 3 Icknield/Greensand Belt**

- 7.2.12 The landscape falls north of the Chiltern Scarp as it moves from the dominant Chalk geology on to the Gault Formation and Greensand geology of the Icknield Belt in the Vale of Aylesbury. This is a landscape of relatively flat-lying fields with good cultivable soils and good drainage (north and west towards the River Thame, River Colne and thence the River Thames).
- 7.2.13 The landscape in this ACA is one of predominantly parliamentary, 19th and 20th century enclosure with some elements of pre-18th century enclosure, much of it arable with some pasture and, more commonly in the past, orchards. Settlement comprises nucleated villages with outlying farmsteads and former moated sites at Terrick, Nash Lee and Grove Farm around which several isolated and quite degraded examples of ridge and furrow survives indicating former areas of medieval open field. In contrast to the rest of the study area to the south, this ACA is much more sparsely wooded. This is probably a reflection of the historic demand for good agricultural land and resultant woodland clearance.
- 7.2.14 The dominant routeways in this northern part of the study area lie both east to west on the Chilterns and north to south along the foot of the scarp.

<sup>72</sup> Chiltern District Council, (1998).

<sup>73</sup> Buckinghamshire County Council, (2006).

<sup>74</sup> Buckinghamshire County Council, The Chilterns Conservation Board & English Heritage, (2010).

- 7.2.15 The Proposed Scheme will cross the Chiltern dip-slope onto the Chiltern Scarp and descend onto the agricultural land of the Icknield / Greensand belt where there is a greater potential for settlement and associated agricultural activity from at least the later prehistoric period.
- 7.2.16 There have been relatively extensive archaeological investigations away from the study area, including at the Aston Clinton bypass<sup>75</sup>. These demonstrate a landscape that was relatively intensively occupied from at least the late prehistoric and Romano-British periods onwards. Evidence of settlement and associated field systems from these periods is likely within the study area. There is also good potential for the survival of below ground remains associated with buildings of at least Roman date onwards, including a possible Romano-British villa at Wellwick Farm.

### **7.3 Archaeological sub-zones**

- 7.3.1 The ASZ are presented in the table below from south to north.

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<sup>75</sup> Farley, M., (2010).

Table 1: Archaeological sub-zones

No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
1	Land around and west of Hunt's Green Farm	Situated on the valley shoulder sloping gently down towards the bottom of the valley.	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk.	Agriculture, mainly arable and pasture.	20th century prairie fields.	Metal detector survey yielded copper and silver coins, a lead token and a buckle. Dates range between the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. Just to the east of Hunt's Green Farm a fieldwalking exercise yielded six Mesolithic - Bronze Age flints.
2	Land to the west of Hunt's Green Farm including Grim's Ditch scheduled monument	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down close to the valley floor.	Mostly on Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk. Western edge onto chalk.	Agriculture, mainly arable, and some pasture. Includes the Grim's Ditch scheduled monument which is mostly wooded.	20th century prairie fields. A small area of 16th to 20th century parkland.	Known length of Grim's Ditch shown through geophysical survey to extend into Woodland's Park and perhaps into Rushmore Wood. Beginning to the north-east of Cottage Farm the boundary runs in a north-easterly direction for some 100m through a narrow stretch of woodland within the grounds of Cottage Farm; then, after a gradual change in direction, north, north-east for 250m along the eastern edge of the pasture field to the west of Three Bears Cottage, through a narrow stretch of woodland flanked by cultivated fields, and into the cultivated field north, north-east of the woodland. This section of Grim's Ditch survives as a substantial earthwork along most of its length. An excavation carried out in 1973 along a stretch of Grim's Ditch approximately 6km to the north-east produced evidence of a level area, or berm, separating the bank and ditch. Evidence for a palisade trench which would have supported a wooden fence was also found along the outer edge of the ditch. Geophysical survey identified that the ditch and traces of the bank continued for a further 22m at the north, north-east end of the visible earthwork. This buried stretch is included in the scheduling.
3	Assarted land and ancient woodland perhaps associated with The Lee	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down towards the valley floor.	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Managed woodland	Probable assarted enclosure. Rushmoor Wood at western end, comprises ancient and semi-natural woodland.	Probable elements of Grim's Ditch extend through the area, especially likely within Rushmoor Wood.
4	The Lee		Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk.	A village with at least medieval origins.	Settlement and pre-18th century enclosure.	Medieval earthworks, medieval and post-medieval built heritage within the

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No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
				Designated as a conservation area which includes medieval earthworks on west side and one Grade I and 11 Grade II listed buildings. The ASZ includes the associated Lee Common.	The latter encompasses preserved medieval earthworks of former settlement and surrounding enclosure ditch and bank.	conservation area.
5	Land to the east of Dutchlands Farm	Slightly undulating and sloping gently down into the valley floor.	Chalk on valley slope and colluvial deposits in valley bottom.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	All probable assarted enclosure of medieval and post-medieval date.	The flatter landscape of the valley floor is likely to have been exploited in the same way as the landscape surrounding the farmsteads to the north at Wendover Dean and surface finds of multiple periods are likely to survive. There may also be surviving buried archaeological remains associated with the agricultural activities.
6	Land to the south and south-west of the Lee and Lee Common	Situated on the valley shoulder rising to the plateau, slightly undulating and sloping gently down towards the valley floor.	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Predominantly pre-18th century enclosure probably originating as assarted enclosure of medieval and post-medieval date.	A few artefacts of prehistoric date have been found on the upper flank of the Misbourne Valley and the plateau above it, just to the west of Hunt's Green Farm. These are commonly associated with areas where the Clay-with-Flints strata prevails. Occasional unstratified finds of later dates, predominantly of medieval and post-medieval origin may also be recovered. These are likely to be associated with agricultural practices such as manuring. This is part of the agricultural hinterland of The Lee and hamlets such as Hunt's Green.
7	Land around Strawberryhill Farm	Situated on the valley shoulder, slightly undulating and sloping gently down into the valley floor.	Predominantly Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk giving way to chalk on lower slopes to west.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	20th century prairie fields, formerly pre 18th century enclosure.	Nothing recorded with the exception of a 19th century pit. The ASZ lies on the periphery of an extensive area of metal detected fields at Wendoverdean Farm in which multi-period finds of Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval date have been recovered.
8	Jones' Hill Wood	Situated on gently sloping ground down the valley side towards the valley floor.	The eastern edge lies on Clay-with-Flints. The majority on Chalk bedrock.	Managed ancient woodland.	Ancient and semi-natural woodland.	No artefacts or features have previously been recorded within the ASZ. Other ancient woodlands are known to retain earthwork and buried remains of activities associated with woodland management and occupation through the medieval and post-medieval periods.

No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
9	Land around Durham Farm and to the north-east	Slightly undulating and sloping gently down towards the valley floor.	Chalk	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Pre 18th century enclosure.	Lies on the periphery of an extensive area of metal detected fields at Wendoverdean Farm in which multi-period finds of Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval date have been recovered.
10	Land around Wendover Dean Farm and Upper Wendoverdean Farm	Situated on the gently undulating lower slopes and the valley floor.	Clay-with-Flints strata overlying chalk. Colluvial (Head) deposits lie in the valley bottom.	Agriculture, mainly arable, some pasture and grazing. Western boundary defined by the A413.	Predominantly Parliamentary enclosure (original allotments). Some 20th century enclosure. Some stands of post-medieval and modern woodland.	Multi-period (Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval) metal artefacts recovered during a series of metal detector surveys undertaken between 2005 and 2009 on the fields of Wendoverdean Farm and Manor Farm and to the north.
11	Mayertorne Manor Parkland	Situated in the floor of the valley.	Partially on chalk and partially on the colluvial (Head) deposits.	Mainly pasture. Bordered on western side by the Aylesbury to Marylebone Railway and to the east by the A413.	16th to 20th century parkland - known only on OS mapping of the 19th century. Formerly enclosure.	Lies on the periphery of an extensive area of metal detected fields at Wendoverdean Farm in which multi-period finds of Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval date have been recovered.
12	Land to the north of Dutchlands Farm	Situated on fairly flat ground on the valley floor.	Predominantly on the colluvial (Head) deposits in the valley bottom; some chalk to the north-west.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture. Bordered on western side by the Aylesbury to Marylebone Railway and to the east by the A413.	20th century enclosure, former Parliamentary enclosure.	The flatter landscape of the valley floor is likely to have been exploited in the same way as the landscape surrounding the farmsteads to the north at Wendover Dean and surface finds of multiple periods are likely to survive. There may also be surviving buried archaeological remains associated with the agricultural activities.
13	Land associated with Wendover Dean north of Manor Farm	Situated on fairly flat ground on the valley floor. Slightly rising to the west.	Predominantly on the colluvial (Head) deposits in the valley bottom some chalk in the south-west quadrant.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture. Bordered on western side by the Aylesbury to Marylebone Railway and to the east by the A413.	20th century enclosure, former Parliamentary enclosure.	Multi-period (Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval), metal artefacts recovered during a series of metal detector surveys undertaken between 2005 and 2009 on the fields of Wendoverdean Farm and Manor Farm and to the north.
14	Woodland and former Cuckoo Farm	Situated on the valley shoulder quite steeply sloping westwards towards the valley floor.	Clay-with-Flints strata on the eastern side on to Chalk moving west.	Managed post-medieval and modern woodland. Some pasture and gardens associated with Rocketer Cottage (Cuckoo Farm).	18th to 19th century woodland, formerly pre 18th century enclosure.	There is a potential for the survival of flint artefacts of prehistoric date on the Clay-with-Flints strata of the higher valley slopes and plateau. This has been demonstrated to the south at ASZ 1 and more extensively in CFA9. Such remains are likely to be unstratified surface finds. There is very little likelihood of the survival of buried archaeological remains of prehistoric date. Elsewhere metal

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No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
						detector surveys and fieldwalking have also found artefacts of multiple periods on this type of landscape.
15	Land around Road Barn Farm and east towards Boddington Hill	The western side situated in the valley bottom sloping eastwards and north-eastwards up the valley.	The northerly edge of colluvial (Head) deposits in the valley bottom with chalk elsewhere.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Parliamentary enclosure, formerly original allotments.	<p>Metalwork recovered during metal detecting survey to the west of Boddington Hill in 2004, 2008, 2010 dating to the early medieval, medieval and post-medieval periods. The site of a former windmill is also known from its depiction on Jeffrey's 18th century map of Buckinghamshire.</p> <p>Two Bronze Age palstaves were found in a gravel quarry north of Road Barn Farm. It is believed that they were probably moved there in 20th century since they were found tied together with modern copper wire. Pleistocene mammal remains were also found in the former gravel pit, now in use as a rifle range.</p>
16	Land associated with Smalldean Farm	Much of the land lies in the valley bottom. The western half lies on the lower western slope of the valley.	Colluvial deposits in the valley floor occupy the lower east side of the area. The remainder is chalk.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture. Some orchard planting at the southern end.	A mix of pre 18th century enclosure, Parliamentary enclosure, 19th century enclosure and 20th century enclosure.	<p>None recorded with the exception of the possible location of Clerk's Mill.</p> <p>Documentary sources record this mill in the 15th and 16th century. Poyntz Mills is also recorded in the 13th to 16th centuries attached to Wyvelsgate Manor.</p> <p>Unassociated finds of Iron Age metal work have been recorded here too.</p>
17	Wendover	Wendover is situated at the point on the Chiltern Scarp where the Misbourne Valley leaves the Chiltern Hills and meets the lowlands of the Icknield Belt.	Chalk	Urban settlement.	Wendover has expanded during the last two centuries into areas of formerly pre 18th century enclosure.	Built heritage of medieval to modern date and evidence of a diverse range of finds from sites around the settlement. These comprise Roman pottery and a tessera from a mosaic, a Neolithic flint axe, a possible early medieval cobbled floor, medieval burgage plots, human remains of at least early medieval date and coins.
18	20th century housing on Bacombe Lane	This cluster of 20th century houses on Bacombe Lane lies at the western edge of Bacombe Hill on the Chiltern Scarp.	Chalk	Settlement. Modern housing extending along Bacombe Lane on the outskirts of Wendover.	Modern settlement. Formerly Parliamentary enclosure.	A single post-medieval findspot is recorded within the ASZ. This is probably mis-located since it belongs to a group of metal detector finds associated with activity in fields to the north at Wellwick Farm.
19	Bacombe Hill	A chalk hill on the eastern side of Coombe Hill. Part of the Chiltern Scarp.	Chalk	Rough grazing and publicly accessible footpaths, common land and woodland.	Common land, some pre 18th century enclosure and woodland on higher	Two early Bronze Age scheduled monuments comprising three barrows. A few metal detected finds of Iron Age date plus lithics on the south-facing slope and

No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
					ground. Parliamentary enclosure on the north slope and settlement at the foot of the slope	foot of the slope.
20	Ridge and furrow	A small area in one field on the north side of Wendover. Fairly low-lying flat land.	Chalk	Agriculture, mainly pasture.	Parliamentary enclosure.	A metal detector survey was carried out in this field. No artefacts were recorded.
21	Land around Wellwick Farm and Coneycroft Farm	Flat-lying agricultural land north of Bacombe Hill as the Chiltern Scarp drops to the Vale of Aylesbury.	Predominantly chalk with the exception of the north-eastern corner adjacent to Nash Lee Road which lies on Gault Formation / Greensand Formation.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Parliamentary enclosure and 20th century enclosure.	A series of metal detector rallies between 1998 - 2008 on land at Coneycroft Farm and Wellwick Farm recovered a range of artefacts from the Iron Age to the post-medieval period. A large quantity of Romano-British tile and pottery as well as slag were recovered during a fieldwalking survey east of Wellwick Farm. This has been interpreted as the possible site of a Romano-British villa. Fieldwalking has yielded more extensive evidence of a possible Roman-British period building east of Wellwick Farm and a cremation burial. Recent geophysical survey and fieldwalking survey has yielded further evidence of Roman period settlement activity. Ceramic building remains and pottery sherds may be associated with the buried remains of a potential building or, potentially the remains of a Romano-British trackway. Geophysical survey suggested there may be surviving buried remains of in-filled pits and possible field boundaries or enclosure ditches.  A single Saxon brooch was recovered in the early 1990s on the west side of the farm buildings.
22	Land around Loudwater Farm	Flat-lying agricultural land north on the northern periphery of Wendover as the Chiltern Scarp descends to the Vale of Aylesbury.	The ASZ is dividing broadly in two. To the south-east the land is chalk, to the north-west Gault Formation / Greensand Formation.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Parliamentary enclosure and 20th century enclosure.	Metal detector rallies undertaken in 1990s, 2004, 2005, to the east of the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line just north of Wendover. Multi-period metal artefacts recovered along with ceramic and metal surface finds from the Iron Age, Roman, early medieval and medieval periods. Finds include a concentration of Roman coins, two possible Roman-British brooches, a Saxon brooch and Iron Age and Roman pottery found on the

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No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
						ploughed surface. It is possible that the remains of a Romano-British building survive in this locality. Isolated finds by metal detector in the area have also been recovered, comprising a Saxon silver strap end and medieval coin.
23	Land around Springfield Farm	Flat-lying agricultural land north of Wendover as the Chiltern Scarp drops to the Vale of Aylesbury.	Gault Formation / Greensand Formation.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Parliamentary enclosure, both divided allotments and original allotments. Some pre 18th century enclosure and 20th century enclosure.	Roman tile, pottery and metal finds were recovered in advance of development and following topsoil stripping, during a metal detector survey, fieldwalking and ground surface survey. An undated ditch and well were also recorded. This site is on the line of the Lower Icknield Way, a possible Roman road, though this is as yet an unproven hypothesis. The Lower Icknield Way may in fact be of medieval origin.
24	Land on the north side of B4009 Nash Lee Road	Flat-lying agricultural land at the edge of the Vale of Aylesbury.	Gault Formation / Greensand Formation.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Orchard and Parliamentary enclosure (original allotments).	A field in the north-west corner of the ASZ appears to show traces of ridge and furrow earthworks on the LiDAR plot. There are no other records. The ASZ, however, lies on the eastern edge of a former medieval moated site at Nashlee Farm and within the wider area of a probable medieval settlement of Nash Lee Green. The line of the B4009 Nash Lee Road may have been preceded by a Roman road and settlement evidence along the route from at least the Roman period is possible.
25	Land on the south side of B4009 Nash Lee Road	Flat-lying agricultural land at the edge of the Vale of Aylesbury.	The southern half of the ASZ lies on Chalk and the northern half on Gault Formation / Greensand Formation.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Parliamentary enclosure, 19th century enclosure and 20th century enclosure.	A scatter of Iron Age, Roman and medieval pottery as well as late prehistoric flint artefacts found in fieldwalking surveys. Some sherds of Saxon origin too.  Roman remains included samian pottery sherds and tile. In all a large quantity of Iron Age to Saxon pottery sherds was recovered. This includes much Roman pottery of 2nd to 3rd century date. A visible band of flints running across the field could represent a possible ruined building.  There was also evidence of a possible Saxon building and Mesolithic and

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No	Name	Topography	Geology/soils	Modern land use	Historic character	Archaeology
						<p>Neolithic - Bronze Age flint. Metalwork of Iron Age date was also recovered during metal detector rallies.</p>
26	Nashlee farm and Terrick Roman site	Relatively flat-lying land with slight fall towards the north-west.	Gault Formation / Greensand Formation.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	19th century enclosure, 20th century enclosure and 20th century prairie fields.	<p>A 19th century excavation uncovered evidence of a Roman villa. Coins were first found in the 18th century when the field was being cleared of flints. Subsequently excavated by J.S Stone in 1858.</p> <p>Medieval pottery has been found in the orchard at Nashlee Farm and a further scatter of Iron Age and medieval pottery was found during a fieldwalking survey to the east of Nashlee Farm.</p> <p>Buckinghamshire County Council has identified the moated area at Nashlee Farm and an area to the east of the farm as the potential remains of the former medieval settlement of Nash Lee Green.</p>
27	Land at North Lee	Relatively flat-lying land with slight fall towards the north-west.	Gault Formation / Greensand Formation.	Agriculture, mainly arable and some pasture.	Parliamentary enclosure (original allotments). Ridge and furrow survives in a field at Marsh Crossing on the northern boundary of the ASZ.	<p>Five Neolithic - Bronze Age flint flakes, seven sherds of Romano-British and 13 of medieval pottery recovered during fieldwalking. Aerial photographs also indicate cropmarks which may be the remains of a medieval moated site. No trace has been observed on the ground.</p>

# 8 Analysis and research potential

## 8.1 Analysis of understanding

- 8.1.1 There are a number of land parcels throughout the study area for which access has not been granted (see Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010). This has precluded the opportunity to make a detailed assessment of archaeological potential by walkover, fieldwalking or by geophysical survey.
- 8.1.2 A remote survey of the study area has been undertaken and the results incorporated in this assessment. This has enhanced the understanding of the impact of the prevailing Chalk and Clay-with-Flints strata and to the north, the Gault Formation / Greensand Formation geology, on the preservation of cropmarks. The assessment identified a possible unscheduled stretch of Grim's Ditch to the north of the scheduled monument (DWH008), situated in Rushmoor Wood (DWH021; Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, Jo8). It also identified potential earthwork remains of what is very tentatively interpreted as an almost ploughed out former motte and bailey site in Wendover to the north of St Mary's Church (DWH117; Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, J42) and cropmark evidence of the possible location of a former medieval chantry chapel and hospital of St John the Baptist (DWH116). The putative identity of this site is highly speculative though and known only from documentary records. There is a far stronger likelihood that these cropmarks represent the remains of medieval to post-medieval field boundaries or agricultural enclosures (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, J21). Elsewhere there are numerous examples of ploughed-out former ridge and furrow throughout the study area as well as a few examples of very degraded ridge and furrow earthworks (DWH125, DWH143, DWH145 and DWH153; Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, J38, J39). These are likely to be of medieval origin. In addition, the assessment identified former field boundary earthworks and cropmarks of probably medieval and post-medieval date and numerous examples of former extraction pits and quarrying, probably of post-medieval origin.
- 8.1.3 Fieldwalking and geophysics have been undertaken on land to the east of Wellwick Farm (DWH111) and the results indicate potential buried remains which could be associated either with elements of a Romano-British building, or possibly a trackway, for which ceramic building debris and pottery sherds may have been incorporated as part of the construction process (Volume 5: Appendix CH-004-010, site CSoAA). The geophysical survey identified several features which are indicative of former cut features such as pits and two rectilinear features which could be indicative of field boundaries or enclosure.
- 8.1.4 Waterways within the study area are limited to very minor streams. There are no recorded terraces of gravels and only restricted areas of alluvial sand and gravel deposits on the valley floor of the River Misbourne, as far north as Road Barn Farm. The geology of all of the archaeological sub-zones (ASZs) just past the north of Wendover is chalk, with overlying Clay-with-Flints strata in much of the south-eastern half of the study area on the west to south-west facing valley slope and the plateau. There are colluvial (Head) deposits in the dry floor of the valley as far north as Road Barn Farm. These colluvial deposits have the potential to mask buried archaeological

remains and possibly palaeoenvironmental remains. The geology of the remainder of the ASZs in the north of study area is Gault Formation / Upper Greensand Formation. This is the most agriculturally productive land in the study area.

- 8.1.5 Land use is overwhelmingly agricultural, predominantly arable though with areas of pasture and gardens and these make up the largest group of sub-zones (ASZ1, 2, 5-7, 9-13, 15, 16 and 20-27). There are four reasonably coherent partially surviving examples of ridge and furrow earthworks within the study area, all to the north of Wendover in the Icknield / Greensand Belt (ASZ20, 24, 27). There are extensive tracts of ancient woodland, predominantly in the Misbourne Valley.
- 8.1.6 The study area as a whole is relatively undisturbed by modern impacts, with the exception of modern agricultural activities and the network of roads and the Marylebone to Aylesbury Line. The focus of settlement lies at Wendover (ASZ17), with smaller settlements at Dunsmore (outside the study area) and The Lee / Lee Common (ASZ4). There has been 20th century development at all of these, but on no great scale and they remain fairly nucleated, compact settlements. There is quite extensive cartographic and landscape evidence of small scale chalk extraction throughout the study area as well as some limited gravel extraction. Little of this historic mineral extraction has taken place within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme.
- 8.1.7 Evidence for the prehistoric period as a whole within the study area is limited, though not in particular contrast with elsewhere in the county. This is with the exception of three Bronze Age round barrows on Baccombe Hill, just outside the land required to construct the Proposed Scheme (ASZ19); and Grim's Ditch at the southern end of the study area (ASZ2). A lack of development and associated archaeological investigation, along with the geological and topographical conditions within the study area are no doubt contributory factors to this lack of recorded activity.
- 8.1.8 The Clay-with-Flints and chalk geology on the Misbourne Valley's eastern slope and the plateau is not likely to be a source of in-situ Palaeolithic remains, or in any quantity, of re-worked and redeposited remains. Mesolithic, Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age activity is evident on the Clay-with-Flints strata of the Misbourne Valley's eastern slope and the plateau and is most likely to survive in ASZ1, 2, 6 and 7. The eastern edge of ASZ5 also lies within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme on the Clay-with-Flints strata just north of Grim's Ditch.
- 8.1.9 There is no evidence to date within the study area of palaeo-environmental remains and given the lack of watercourses there is a negligible potential for the in-situ survival of such remains, though there may be a limited potential for the preservation of such remains beneath colluvial deposits on the valley floor. Colluvial deposits are recorded in several ASZs (5, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 16). Of these sub-zones ASZ10, ASZ15 and ASZ16 lie partially within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme and may retain a limited potential for buried palaeoenvironmental remains.
- 8.1.10 Finds of prehistoric date have been recovered within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme on chalk and Clay-with-Flints strata on land around Durham Farm (ASZ9); Wendover Dean Farm and Upper Wendoverdean Farm

(ASZ10); and Mayertorne Farm and Manor Farm (ASZ11). To the north on the Gault Formation / Greensand Formation, geology Iron Age artefacts are more prolific. The Proposed Scheme will pass through ASZ25 south of Nash Lee Road which lies close to a concentration of finds dating to the Iron Age. Surveys to the north of Wendover around Loudwater Farm (ASZ22) also indicate a reasonable potential for surviving buried remains of Iron Age date. These appear to focus in the north of the study area on the better agricultural land of the Icknield/Greensand Belt at the head of the Vale of Aylesbury.

- 8.1.11 There is a high potential for currently unrecorded Roman remains in the study area. These are most likely to survive in the north of the study area on the better agricultural land of the Icknield/Greensand Belt at the head of the Vale of Aylesbury. The Proposed Scheme will pass to the east of Coneycroft Farm and Wellwick Farm (ASZ21) in which fieldwalking and metal detector surveys indicate the likely survival of buried remains, probably associated with a Romano-British building. Surveys to the north of Wendover around Loudwater Farm (ASZ22) also indicate a high potential for surviving buried remains of Roman date.
- 8.1.12 Throughout much of the northern part of the study area on the Greensand geology there are likely to be unstratified ceramic remains and metalwork of late prehistoric and Roman date in the plough soils and some potential for below-ground remains associated with rural settlements. There may also be the remains of field boundaries or stock management enclosures and paddocks.
- 8.1.13 There is little potential for surviving early medieval remains within the study area with the exception of occasional unstratified ceramic and metal artefacts. Medieval evidence is more prevalent throughout the study area and unstratified artefacts have been found in most ASZs. There is a moderate potential for the survival of below-ground features associated with agricultural practice throughout the study area. There is a limited potential for the survival of woodland features such as saw-pits, ditches and banks in Jones' Hill Wood (ASZ8) as well as ceramic artefacts and metalwork. It is possible that surviving fields of ridge and furrow within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme in ASZ20, ASZ 24 and ASZ27 could mask pre-medieval archaeological remains.
- 8.1.14 Below-ground remains of post-medieval and modern origin are likely to be extensive throughout the study area.
- 8.1.15 The highest potential for surviving buried archaeological remains is at land to the west of Hunt's Green Farm around Grim's Ditch (ASZ2) where the Proposed Scheme will pass through the scheduled monument; Jones' Hill Wood, which may preserve earthwork and buried remains associated with medieval woodland management or settlement (ASZ8); land around Wendover Dean Farm and Upper Wendoverdean Farm where multi-period surface and sub-surface finds have been recovered (ASZ10); land to the east of Coneycroft Farm and Wellwick Farm where the buried remains of a possible Romano-British building and associated agricultural activity could survive(ASZ21); land to the east of the Marylebone to Aylesbury Railway just north of Wendover where there is potential evidence of Iron Age and Romano-British

occupation (ASZ22); and land to the south (ASZ25) and to the north of Nash Lee Road (ASZ24), where buried remains of Iron Age and Roman date may survive.

## 8.2 Research potential and priorities

- 8.2.1 Many research questions can best be formulated at either a scheme-wide or at a county/multiple community forum area level. These will draw heavily on the regional and period research frameworks, which have been prepared with support from English Heritage<sup>76</sup>.
- 8.2.2 This section presents research questions which are specific to the heritage assets, either known or suspected, within the Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton study area.

### Research Questions

- 8.2.3 The research potential and priorities are considered on a chronological basis.

#### Early prehistory

- what is the nature of the preservation of early prehistoric lithic remains on the Clay-with-Flints strata on the Misbourne Valley's eastern slope and the plateau and are these in-situ or redeposited?
- what is the nature of, and reasons for, deposition of flint tool and flake scatters between the Mesolithic and the Bronze Age on the Clay-with-Flints strata on the Misbourne Valley's eastern slope and the plateau?
- is the lack of evidence of below ground remains associated with unstratified surface discoveries a result of limited archaeological works or limited activity on the Clay-with-Flints strata and lack of watercourses?

#### Later prehistory

- to what extent can surviving earthwork and below ground elements of Grim's Ditch (DWH008) provide data on its origin and uses in the prehistoric period and subsequently?
- can the survival of buried land surfaces beneath the intact earthworks at Grim's Ditch (DWH008) shed light on the nature of land-use and environmental conditions in the later prehistoric period?
- is the evidence of unstratified Iron Age ceramics in the north of the study area and within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme (DWH130, DWH132) a reflection of surviving below ground settlement remains? Do they indicate continuity of landscape exploitation for agricultural purposes from the Bronze Age?

#### Romano-British

- what evidence is there in the archaeological record for continuity of settlement

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<sup>76</sup> Oxford Archaeology, (2009-2010), *The Solent-Thames Research Framework Resource Assessment*.

and agricultural practices from the Iron Age into the Roman period?

- what is the pattern of rural settlement in the Roman period and is there a potential for dispersed rural farmsteads on the higher ground on the Chiltern dip-slope and plateau, away from the valley floor?
- can potential surviving buried archaeological remains to the east of Wellwick Farm and Coneycroft Farm (DWH111) shed light on the hierarchy of Roman rural settlement in the agricultural landscape of the Vale of Aylesbury?

### **Early medieval**

- do any settlements within the land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme have early medieval origins?
- are there any early medieval dispersed agricultural farmsteads on the higher slopes of the valley and plateau?

### **Medieval**

- can Jones' Hill Wood (DWH030) ancient woodland shed light on medieval woodland management, industry and settlement, help to substantiate the history of ancient woodlands and contribute to a wider understanding of such woodlands' antiquity?

### **Post-medieval**

- what is the date and scale of widespread woodland clearance in the region and how has this influenced the changing soil resources and hydrology of both upland and lowland areas and the dates at which alluvium and colluvium became established?
- are there opportunities to improve our understanding of the Parliamentary landscapes of enclosure and improvement, and the inter-relationship between arable, pastureland, woodland and waste? What is the relationship between this and the creation of dispersed farmsteads as communal land became parcelled out privately?
- can a better understanding of the age of the local hedgerows and field boundaries be established?



# 9 Information sources

## 9.1 References

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## 9.2 Cartographic sources

### County Maps

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1825. Bryant's map of Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire Record Office

### Enclosure maps

1796. Wendover Enclosure Map. Buckinghamshire Record Office

1805. Ellesborough Enclosure Map. Buckinghamshire Record Office

## **Tithe maps**

1841. Tithe map of Wendover (parish), Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire Record Office

1843. Tithe map of Great Missenden (parish), Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire Record Office

## **Ordnance Survey maps**

*Ordnance Survey County Series, Buckinghamshire Sheet 6": 1 mile (1:10,560)*

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